

Crime-1913.

Alabama

SHERIFF MARTIN OF HALE EXONERATED OF CHARGES

Supreme Court Said He Did Not
Neglect Duty

DEATH OF NEGRO BASIS

Charges Were He Allowed
Prisoner to Kill Self With
Carbolic Acid

Montgomery Advertiser
2-15-13
Sheriff Martin of Hale County, was discharged by the Supreme Court and exonerated by that body of the charges brought by the State in impeachment proceedings which were held Monday. The Supreme tribunal decided that the State had failed to sustain the charges of wilful neglect of duty and incompetence which had been brought against the official.

The impeachment proceedings were brought as the result of the death of Will Thomas, a negro prisoner, sentenced to be hanged, who was held in the Hale County jail at Greensboro. It was charged that Sheriff Martin, in wilful neglect of duty, permitted the negro to obtain carbolic acid, with which he committed suicide on December 31, 1912.

In his argument before the Supreme Court, Attorney General Robert C. Brickell contended that the Sheriff was either incompetent or willfully neglected his duty in permitting the prisoner to obtain the poison.

Robert V. Evans of Greensboro, represented Sheriff Martin and contended that the sheriff was not incompetent and that he did not wilfully neglect his duty in permitting the drug to be brought to the jail. Witnesses were introduced to show that it had been the custom to use carbolic acid for sanitary and other purposes and that the Sheriff was not cognizant of the intention of the negro.

The Supreme Court was unanimous in its opinion freeing the Hale County

official of the charges brought against him.

WILLIAM MARTIN, SHERIFF OF HALE, IS IMPEACHED

Papers Charge Neglect of Duty
and Incompetence.

PRISONER'S DEATH BASIS

O'Neal Orders Proceedings
Following Suicide of Negro
Condemned to Hang.

Impeachment proceedings were instituted Monday in the Supreme Court against William Martin, Sheriff of Hale County, by Attorney General Robert C. Brickell, by direction of Governor O'Neal. Charges of wilful neglect of duty and incompetence are made against the sheriff in the petition, and several specifications are made in each charge.

The petition avers that Sheriff Martin knowingly permitted Will Thomas, a negro in his custody, who was under a death sentence, to obtain carbolic acid, which he used to commit suicide. The negro killed himself December 31, and it is charged that the Sheriff permitted the delivery of the poison to the prisoner, although he knew it was dangerous.

The acid was obtained through the aid of the jailer or janitor. It is said that the negro Thomas dropped the money to pay for the poison out of the window and told the janitor to buy some carbolic acid. The janitor carried out his wishes and placed the package containing the poison with the other packages that were to be delivered to the prisoners. It is charged

in the petition that the Sheriff took the package, went to Thomas's cell, unlocked the door and handed it to the condemned prisoner, although he was aware of the contents of the bottle.

Reports of the manner in which the negro died reached Governor O'Neal, and he ordered an investigation. The results of this investigation were sufficient to cause the institution of the impeachment proceedings.

The Supreme Court has set February 14 as the date for the hearing.

SHERIFF UNDER FIRE FOR SUICIDE OF NEGRO

Montgomery, Ala., January 4.—Governor O'Neal has ordered impeachment proceedings against Sheriff William Martin, of Hale county, to determine whether or not the officer was criminally negligent when he allowed a prisoner, Will Thomas, a negro charged with wife murder, to secure carbolic acid with which to kill himself.

The case will be tried in the supreme court. Martin is charged with having delivered the acid, or allowing it to be delivered, to the prisoner. Thomas drank the poison and died from its effects.

State of Oklahoma Encouraging Crime Among Colored Youths.

The Tulsa Star.

Youthful white criminals are sent to reform school while the same class of Colored offenders are turned loose because State has failed to provide for them. Will Legislatue Act?

4/18/13

Will the criminal colored youth of Oklahoma continue to run wild and rampant and the respectable people of the state left unprotected from this rapidly increasing class of citizens or will the state through the present session of the legislature provide adequate means for the much-needed correction of this class and protection to the general public by establishing a reform school for the delinquent colored youth?

This is the question the colored people throughout the state are most interested in at this time and is a question which should be of equal interest to all law abiding white people of this great commonwealth. The state of Oklahoma has no law which provides for the correction of youthful colored criminals though ample provisions have been made by the state for the same class of whites. As a result the colored boys and girls under 16 years old may commit crime in this state without fear of the law because of existing conditions. For instance a colored boy or girl might commit murder and be convicted but that is as far as the state could go. The youthful criminal could not be sent to the penitentiary if he happened to be under 16 years old, and they would not commit him to the reform school for whites, hence he is turned loose to poison the minds of other youths, and encouraged by these deplorable conditions it is no wonder that this class of citizens are on the increase in Oklahoma. The federation of Colored Women's Clubs in

this state have worked unceasingly and diligently to obtain some adequate legislation for this evil and injustice to the public, especially the colored public, and it might be said that during the regular session of the fourth legislature they met with some encouragement. A bill providing for a reform school for colored boys and girls was introduced by Representative Emanuel of Murray county and Representative Wyand of Muskogee county which was finally reported out from the committee on public buildings without recommendation except that it be placed on the calendar. A few days later, however, the regular session adjourned and everything on the calendar went dead. Since that time the colored women of the state have renewed their efforts hoping the extraordinary session would do what the regular session failed to accomplish, but unless something is done soon the special session of the legislature will adjourn without having done anything to better these conditions.

The bill will doubtless pass both houses and even meet Governor Cruce's stamp of approval if it is ever again introduced and those who oppose the measure, if any should be found, should no longer be entitled to the confidence of the people of this state.

Whether such a bill is passed or not the law abiding colored people of this state have certainly played well their part to insure the protection of the law to all the people of the state. What will you do Mr. Representative?

GREER DENIES LEASE SYSTEM IS EXISTING

Says If Convicts Are Put on Road State Will Lose

\$2,000,000 Revenue

Mont. Adv. 6-15-13

Special to The Advertiser. ANNISTON, ALA., June 14.—Denying that such a thing as a lease system exists in Alabama, L. F. Greer, associate State Convict Inspector, of this city, declares that if the present system of dealing with the convict problem is changed and the convicts put to work on the public roads, the State will be confronted with the problem of raising \$2,000,000 in additional revenue from some source.

Mr. Greer says that inasmuch as he will retire from office as soon as his term expires, he has no personal interest to be conserved, but that he speaks from a standpoint of the welfare of the State.

"The Convict Department is a revenue raiser for the State," said Mr. Greer, "bringing in more than \$1,000,000 gross every year, of which something like \$400,000 is net profit. Suppose you take the convicts out of the mines and put them on the roads, the State loses \$1,000,000 revenue. Convicts will cost at least \$600,000 for maintenance, which makes \$1,600,000. Prisons to hold the convicts securely in various counties will cost \$400,000 additional, which makes the total cost to the people of the State at least \$2,000,000. Of course, from this sum must be taken the worth of the convicts' work, but additional revenue must be raised for the State."

Mr. Greer denies that there has been any cruelty to the State convicts and continues: "There is no such thing as a lease system in Alabama. Every State convict is under the direct control of the State. We feed them, clothe them, appoint their tasks, and inflict such punishment as is deemed necessary. The men who guard them,

the men who oversee their work are employees of the State, some of them being from the best families of Alabama. We feed every convict in the State with the exception of two small camps, but even here the State warden is in charge, and the treatment is regulated by the Convict Department. Not a single felon is leased to any contractor."

Apropos of the question now being considered in this county of leasing the convicts from Talladega County to work the public roads of Calhoun, Mr. Greer says that the law would require the county to lease not less than twenty men, and the moment any county assumes control of the convicts of another county the convicts come under his supervision, and he will insist on such regulations as the State requires in the mines and convict camps.

Liquor Law Scrap.

The Anniston City Council held a stormy session Thursday evening when Alderman S. W. Mallory introduced a measure to strengthen the anti-liquor selling laws in the city and prevent the reversal of so many cases in the higher courts, the ordinance in question providing the possession of liquor by any one person in quantities of more than one gallon should be considered prima facie evidence of guilt.

The ordinance also seeks to prevent the keeping of liquor at all in any place not used exclusively as a dwelling, providing for the issuance of search warrants by magistrates where there is reason to believe the law is being violated. The law provides a minimum penalty of \$100 and a maximum of \$150, with a street sentence of six months.

Councilman Burgess moved that the ordinance be tabled, but this motion was lost by a 5 to 4 vote. It went to the second reading and was carried over to the next meeting.

The law firm of Willett and Willett, in this city, has been divided over the Senatorial race in Alabama. E. D. Willett will manage the campaign of Captain Hobson, but J. J. Willett, his brother, has given out a statement to the effect that he will support Senator Johnston, as he does not agree with Hobson on any issue.

Trying to beat his way back to Atlanta, where he had been employed, it has been learned, in Crump's restaurant, a lad of about 14 years, name unknown, was crushed to death between the bumpers of Southern passenger No. 35, at the union station here Friday morning.

The youth was evidently handsome, but his head was horribly crushed in the impact. He told a friend here that his name was Roy, but his surname was not learned, the only possession of his person being an order to "bearer" for a lunch at the tent of the Buffalo Bill show, with which the lad came to Anniston.

HYSTERIA AND COMMON SENSE.

Alabama's treatment of its convicts is even worse than the worst form of slavery. There the humanity as well as the selfish interest of the owner of the human chattel, impelled him to care for its well being, but that system was condemned by the civilized world and abolished. * * * Humane juries hesitate to convict, especially for minor offenses, as they realize the intolerable hard-

ships of the system.—Mobile Item.

Mont. Adv. 6-13-13

Our contemporary seems to have completely lost its balance. The Advertiser knows that the remarks from The Item are not justified by existing conditions in this State, or by the promise of a better condition to accompany a change of method in handling State convicts.

For months there has been exhibited more hysteria than common sense among those who advocate the abolition of the convict lease system of Alabama, and it hurts us to see a usually well-balanced newspaper like the esteemed Item completely lose its head over a purely imaginary ill.

Would The Item have Alabama convicts treated better than free, law-abiding citizens are treated? Would it clothe and house them without exacting enough labor from them to pay for their salt? Why should the editor of The Item, and his reporters, who manage to walk a pretty straight path and keep out of court, be taxed unnecessarily to support a band of criminals who consciously forsook their freedom and happiness for the baser sensations of life?

The Advertiser believes convicts should be treated humanely. We believe their quarters should be clear and healthful. We believe their food and clothing should be sufficient. We believe convicts should not be overworked. Doubtless there are individual cases where Alabama convicts have been sorely mistreated in the past. But The Advertiser has reason to believe that our convicts have been as humanely treated, as fairly treated, as they would be if they were working on the roads. Their clothing has been sufficient. Their quarters have been sanitary and healthful. If one contracts tuberculosis or any other terrible disease, he is immediately ordered by an inspector to the convict hospital at Wetumpka, an institution which should be the pride of the State. Convicts now work as short hours as free men do. If they are in the mines, they finish their nominal tasks and after that work as long as they wish at "overtime." Many of them make from \$15 to \$35 a month overtime, which they spend upon themselves or send to their families. And every convict in the State who is not in the mines is anxious to get there where he can earn extra money. Records at the

Convict Department in Montgomery indicate that. If not leased, and they should be placed upon the roads, they would be a continuous expense to the State, and would be no better cared for—probably not as well cared for. They would be guarded by the State, as at present, and looked after by the State, as at present, and there would be absolutely no difference in the method of handling them—or rather there would be no difference in the method of handling those who did not escape. In Georgia the number of convicts who escape each year from the road camps has quadrupled, if we remember our figures correctly.

The statement that "humane juries hesitate to convict, especially for minor offenses, as they realize the intolerable hardships of the system," is absurd. As a matter of fact, Alabama juries have been too prone to send murderers to the penitentiary who should have gone to the gallows. While on the other hand, we suspect our juries have been to severe and too quick in convicting minor offenders and sending them to the penitentiary. There are many young offenders in Alabama jails, on county roads and in the penitentiary, who, no doubt, ought to be in a reformatory. Juries do not hesitate to convict men because of the "intolerable hardships" of our convict system.

Would the enemies of the present system—which we do not extol as perfect—desire to make pensioners of convicts and their families?

REMOVAL OF CONVICTS CAUSES ORGANIZATION

Prominent Men and Women
Pledge Themselves to

Work to That End

Mont. Adv. 6-15-13

Special to The Advertiser.
BIRMINGHAM, ALA., June 14.—Organization was perfected at a well attended conference held here today in the Armory of the City Hall, by many prominent citizens from various parts of the State, looking to the removal of convicts from the mines of the State and the abolishment of the convict lease system. Captain Frank S. White called the meeting to order and he was chosen as permanent president, with John W. O'Neill, secretary.

In addition to several Probate Judges, Solicitors and Judges of courts of records, members of Boards of Revenue and County Commissioners, attorneys, miners, labor leaders and others, there were four representatives of Equal Suffrage Associations: Mrs. Solon Jacobs, the State President; Mrs. O. R. Hundley, the Birmingham Association President; Mrs. E. D. Wood, President of the Birmingham Humane Society, and Miss Rittenberry.

After prayer by Dr. A. J. Dickinson, who asked for the blessings on all those working for and interested in the movement, and for the unfortunates who will be served through the movement, Captain Frank White made an address in which he stated the objects of the conference and what was to be accomplished by co-operation and hard work along the lines set forth in the call.

More than seventy-five citizens were present, among the number being Probate Judge L. L. Herzberg of Caddo, Etowah County; Probate Judge Keiton, of Blount County; John H. Wallace, Jr., State Game and Fish Commissioner; Borden Burr of Birmingham, Judge J. J. Ray of Walker County, H. S. Davis of Jasper, W. B. Oliver of Tuscaloosa, Captain John Craft of Mobile, President of the State Good Roads Association and member of the State Oyster Commission; Probate Judge Shepherd of Walker County, J. M. Webb, Manager of the Federal Mine Rescue Station in Birmingham; Joseph Clemo, Secretary of the Alabama organization of the United Mine Workers of America; Hugh McGeever and Lawrence Pennington, members of the Jefferson County Board of Revenue; Judge J. A. Sharpe, of the City Court of Birmingham; V. B. Atkins, of Selma, State Senator from Dallas County; J. W. Greene, of Dallas County, a Representative in the Legislature; State Senator Fite of Marion County, and many others.

White's Address.

The address of Captain White, in part, was:

"We are dealing with our fellowman that fellowman who has been convicted. We have no concern today for the fellowman up to the time of his conviction, but after he is far away from the hearth and dons the stripes, all of his privileges taken from him, kisses the wife good-bye, presses to his heart his children, takes his last look at home, commences his journey as a convict, then is our opportunity offered then and there is our task started. He is our fellowman, he is in our hands.

"He is utterly helpless. None to care for him save those left behind; what will we do with him? That's the question today. He is our brother though he is fallen. He is to be our ward or our slave? Shall we, by improving his mind, making him believe the State is his friend instead of his enemy, take him away or send him to slavery. Shall we send him to a life of shame, toil, struggle? What right has the State to commit a crime?"

He told of the present convict system, describing it as cruel. He said he felt he had before him the task of his life. He said he would confess to the sin of having sent fellowmen to a cruel system. The only apology offered for the convict system is there is a vacuum in the Treasury and he said that he had helped to bring about that vacuum in giving in his tax to the State. He told of a negro sent to

the mines for fifty days for "shooting craps," and came out of the mines a cripple for life. "God, pity a country for doing that," said the speaker.

After the temporary officers were made permanent, Captain White, as chairman, and John W. O'Neill, as secretary, a motion prevailed that a committee of five be appointed to receive and consider resolutions offered during the meeting. W. C. Davis, G. H. Malone of Dothan, W. M. Oliver, John Craft and L. L. Herzberg, were named on the committee. Several addresses were delivered, J. W. Greene and Professor James Walker, of East Lake, expressing caution on the movement as to taking convicts out of the mines or abolishing the lease system.

Resolutions Adopted.

The following resolutions were adopted: That the chairman appoint a committee of twenty, with at least one from each district, to be the Executive Committee in the movement; that the chairman be authorized to call conferences where the same are needed; that every effort be made to bring about the desired end.

A resolution was adopted providing for a publicity committee of five to furnish friendly newspapers with information as to the movement.

The following resolution also was adopted:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this mass meeting that the working of the convicts on the public roads can, by proper legislation, be made practical and feasible, and that the Executive Committee to be appointed by the Chairman give this matter prompt and thoughtful consideration, and if found practical and feasible that they submit such suggestion by proper report to the next Legislature."

Among the speakers was John H. Wallace, who said that so long as he could utter a word or write a line he would be found working for the abolishment of the convict lease system and the taking of convicts from the mines.

Captain White announces that he will be several days before he will be able to announce the committee which he is authorized to appoint.

TWO SYSTEMS COMPARED.

Inasmuch as Mississippi has been pointed out as the State which has the proper and ideal manner of handling its convicts, and inasmuch as Alabama is pointed out as the State which is darkly cruel in its handling of convicts, Alabamians are interested in the special dispatch from Jackson, which says: *Mont. Adv. 2-5-13*

Another chapter was added to the charges of grafting and favoritism lodged against the penitentiary board of trustees in connection with cotton sales, when Governor Brewer today addressed a letter to Col. W. A. Montgomery, a member of the board, suggesting a thorough and impartial investigation. Governor Brewer adds that the executive department will undertake the probing if the prison board will place all books and records at his disposal and answer questions under oath.

Mississippi, as we understand it, and as is frequently declared by the Ala-

bama advocates of a change in convict management in this State, works it convicts on farms and is therefore far and away ahead of Alabama in the matter of handling convicts. So, when it is declared that the massing of all State convicts on a farm, with a consequent large production of cotton, presupposes graft in the handling of convicts, Alabama, in which the same change is proposed, is interested.

Alabama knows what it is to work convicts on farms. It has now two large farms which are operated and worked by convicts. These farms have not been money makers for the State. In many years no surplus on the farms there.

to Convict
Constitution 6-15-13

Solicitor General Hugh Dorsey, of the Fulton county superior court, has given out an interview strongly indorsing the proposal to appoint a legislative committee to make thorough investigation of the penal system and criminal court procedure in Georgia, with a view of improving both, increasing their efficiency and bringing them thoroughly up to date.

The specific proposal which Mr. Dorsey indorses is that recently outlined by Judge T. E. Patterson, of the state prison board, and which has been commended by leading legislators and superior court judges throughout the state.

As solicitor general, Mr. Dorsey is constantly brought in contact with many difficulties under the Georgia law of convicting a man before a jury, even when his guilt is certain.

"I think one of the difficulties," says Mr. Dorsey, "lies in the fact that the members of the average jury know that the conditions which surround a convict in Georgia tend to make a man worse and not better, and that juries are consequently reluctant to deliver even a guilty man into the hands of a justice that will merely inflict punishment on him without much likelihood of doing him any good.

"If the penal system were revised along practical and thoroughly conservative lines, yet in such a way that it would make for the moral and physical betterment of convicts, I believe our juries would not only be more willing to convict in proper cases, but would also be willing to give the criminal courts wider authority, which they stand in such great need of."

Mont. Adv. 5-16-13

ADVERTISER, FRIDAY MORNING

DEATH PENALTY GIVEN TO A NEGRO MURDERER

First Case on Record Where Negro Will Hang for Killing Negro.

Special to The Advertiser.
CARROLLTON, ALA., May 15.—Will Jones, colored, indicted by the grand jury of this county last week for murder in the first degree, was tried in the Circuit Court yesterday and was convicted as charged in the indictment and received the death penalty.

From the evidence of witnesses it was shown that the murder was premeditated, and the evidence of those who saw the killing described it as one of the most brutal yet committed in this county. This is the first case on record in this county where a negro will be hung for the murder of one of his own race and the verdict is meeting with the approval of the entire citizenship.

State for a...
Not only the State...
them but the medical agents of...
State regulate their working hours.
dictate the sanitary conditions which
will surround them, and pass upon the
health and earning power of each convict.

Until the Mississippi system is proved to be more of a success than the Alabama system, and without graft, it would be folly to fly from what is beneficial, sanitary and remunerative to that which is doubtful, and which is under suspicion of being honeycombed with graft.

DORSEY ASKS REFORM IN THE PENAL SYSTEM

Solicitor General Tells Why
Many Juries Are Reluctant

Mint Ad
10-16-13

PREFER ATMORE CAMP TO BREWTON STREETS

Convicts Are Granted Permis- sion to Return to Huxford- Orvin Camp

City convicts of Brewton, who have been confined at the Huxford-Orvin convict camp near Atmore, prefer to remain at that camp rather than to work on the streets of Brewton, according to a letter received by Governor O'Neal from Lem Brooks, mayor of Brewton.

Mayor Brooks wrote the Governor that he had offered to permit the convicts to work the streets of Brewton under the "honor system" and had granted them other privileges but that they requested that they be returned to the turpentine camp.

Their request was re-inforced by an appeal from the Huxford-Orvin Company. This company went so far as to pay the fines of the convicts and they at once returned to the camp as free laborers.

Mayor Brooks wrote the Governor the full details of the matter and expressed surprise that the convicts should prefer to go back to Atmore rather than to remain in Brewton, but declared that inasmuch as the company had paid the fines of the men that he could pursue no other course than to permit the men to return.

New York Times
SECRETARY PRISON REFORM
ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIA

N.Y.C. City
(Reprinted from The Atlanta Constitution, Atlanta, Ga.) 4/3/13
By PHILIP WELTNER, 4/3/13

The following is a report received by the office of the Prison Association on the case of a Negro boy, who applied for assistance in securing his pardon: "In regard to his mistreatment by the warden of — county, he substantiates the story in Mason's letter in toto. He says he was sick one morning, but the warden forced him out to work, and put him to tearing up a bridge. He was trying to pull up a plank with his hands, but could not move it. He asked the warden for a

pick to pry it with, but the latter refused to let him have one and ordered him back at it again. When Roger failed to pull the plank loose, the warden had him whipped. After the beating the warden told him to pull the plank up a third time, and when his third effort proved unsuccessful, the warden in a rage kicked the boy off the bridge into the deep gully below. Roger fell on his head and shoulders, and was completely paralyzed. He could neither move nor speak. They laid him under a tree for the rest of the day, instead of taking him back to camp. At nightfall they had him laid in a bunk and here he stayed for three weeks, with no medical attention to speak of. In fact the warden claimed he was playing off, because he could not answer the doctor's questions and had him whipped. No one washed him during the whole of the three weeks while he remained in the camp, and his condition was unspeakable. The stench was unbearable. At the end of three weeks the warden had him moved to the state farm. At present he is able to hobble around with a stick and is gradually recovering his speech."

This happened in Georgia. It did not happen in Russia, in the Siberian mines, nor in the Congo, nor on the rubber plantations of South America. It happened in the Empire State of the South.

The crime for which Roger was deprived of the use of limbs and the power of speech was a burglary, made up of the most trivial details. The punishment that he actually received was as atrocious as any in the annals of penology. What happened to him is liable to happen again. The chances of its repetition are more than even, so long as we employ beasts to act as chaingang captains and pariahs as convict guards.

Spectators Voted Negro's Sentence

GOVERNOR BROWN GRANTS
PAROLE BECAUSE "FLIM-
SY EVIDENCE"

When the Jury Recommended
Mercy Judge Jones Let Steph-
ens County Audience in Court
Room Vote on His Disposition
Of it—"Vote of Audience Un-
thinkable," says Governor

[Augusta, Ga., Chronicle, March 8.]
Atlanta, Ga., March 8.—Gov-
ernor Brown usually writes a crisp
"declined" or "approved" across
the bulk of pardon cases handled
by him. But now and then issues
of sufficient importance to his
mind to necessitate a statement in
connection with a declination or
pardon come up. Then he gen-

erally "rings the bell."

Such a case received his atten-
tion last week and he makes there-
with a clear, clean-cut statement.
Jim Williams, a Negro, was ac-
cused of entering the room of a
white girl in Stephens county. The
evidence against him was very
flimsy.

On the trial a verdict, double-
barreled in its nature was rendered,
burglary and assault with intent to
rape. Judge J. B. Jones, puzzled
perhaps by the jury's recommen-
dation and the elements of doubt
in the case, left it to a vote of the
audience as to whether or not the
recommendation of the jury should
be heeded.

According to the evidence, the
vote was about evenly divided, but
the judge gave him a heavy sen-
tence. The prison commission
recommended a parole and the gov-
ernor approved this action in the
following statement:

March 8th. 1913.
In Re Jim Williams, Stephens
County. Burglary and Assault
With intent to Rape.

This defendant, a young Negro,
was indicted for the two offenses
above named.

The verdict of the jury was as
follows:

"We, the jury, find the defend-
ant guilty, and recommend that he
be punished as for a misdemeanor."

The sheriff of the county, in a
statement to this office, says:

"When the defendant was sen-
tenced, the court left it to a vote
of the audience as to whether the
recommendation of the jury should
be heeded. Apparently the audi-
ence was about evenly divided."

The foreman of the grand jury
writes to this office:

"The evidence in the case was
weak."

The foreman of the trial jury,
in an affidavit, swears "that he
feels sure that the jury would have
acquitted the defendant absolutely
if the jury had believed the court
would disregard the recommenda-
tion of the jury that the defend-
ant be punished as for a misde-
meanor."

There are two affidavits, one by
an officer of the city of Toccoa,
and the other by another citizen,
wherein affiants swear that the
claimed defendant entered about

midnight, are notorious for im-
moral character.

It will be noted that the jury
did not specify of which of the two
offenses it found the defendant
guilty, but it seems manifest that
it was the less serious one.

The remarkable feature of this
case is the fact that the trial judge
"left it to a vote of the audience
as to whether the recommendation
of the jury should be heeded."

There is nothing to show that
"the audience" was sworn to do
justice in this case; that it heard
all the evidence; that it was com-
posed solely of citizens of Stephens
county, or of the state of Georgia;
that one or more of them was not
disqualified by former convictions
for felony, etc.

While I have great faith in the
people, yet I know that "the peo-
ple" have in their constitution es-
tablished a process with the oaths
of every one who takes part in
the administration of it. "The
people" directly forbid mobs and
every act which suggests mob
rulership, yet if it be "left to a
vote of the audience as to whether
the recommendation of the jury
should be heeded," we shall soon
find the mob ruling Georgia, cer-
tainly in the court rooms. It is
unthinkable that the people of this
state will permit a "vote of the
audience" to supplant the oaths of
judges and jurors.

Therefore, that the real intent
of the jury in this case may be al-
lowed to be effective, it is ordered
that the application of the said
Jim Williams for parole be grant-
ed, and the recommendation of the
prison commission in the premises
is hereby approved.

JOSEPH M. BROWN,
Governor.

CHAINGANG SYSTEM IS ENTIRELY WRONG

Ming News
Something to Really Work For
Should Be Given Convicts.

10-27-13
From the Morning News, Oct. 25.
That the measure of the efficiency
of the convict system in Georgia should
be in the usefulness and improvement
in the convict after he has finished
serving his "time," rather than in the

amount of work that he does on the
roads of the state, is the statement
made yesterday by Philip Weltner,
secretary of the Prison Association,
who arrived here in the morning.

Mr. Weltner is stopping at the Sa-
vannah Hotel and will deliver an ad-
dress for the Y. M. C. A. to-morrow
at the Odeon Theater on "The Man
in Stripes."

"There is entirely too much stress
laid on the belief that convicts are
to be used solely to better the public
roads, and too little thought given to
the uplifting and the betterment of
the convict himself, for the convict
system in Georgia to be a success,"
said Mr. Weltner.

Give Prisoners a Chance.

"The object and the ultimate pur-
pose of the Prison Association is to
have the prison and chaingang sys-
tems so revised as to give the convict
some chance of bettering himself and
turning from the life that placed him
in bonds, and until this is done, it
is foolish to say or to think that the
state is successful in its methods of
handling convicts.

"As the system stands now there is
absolutely nothing to encourage a pris-
oner to turn over a new leaf and live
the sort of life that will make him
a credit to his community. He only
sees the fruits of his labor in good
roads and hard work, for which he
is punished if he refuses to do.

"And then, too, if the prison and
chaingang systems are to be called
successful the convicts must be given
the benefit of an indeterminate sen-
tence. That is, he should be kept in
bonds only until he is able to show
the authorities that he really intends
to lead a different sort of life.

State Shouldn't Profit.

"Another fault of the present system
is that the state profits by the work
of the prisoners at the expense of
those prisoners, and in many cases the
prisoners have been the sole bread-
winners of their families. This should
not be. Another object of the Prison
Association is to see that these families
do not suffer.

"At present, if from the appropria-
tions made by the state for the feed-
ing and maintenance of the chaingangs
there is anything left it is turned back
to the state. This also we believe to
be wrong and we think that the sur-
plus should go to the prisoners' fam-
ilies."

Mr. Weltner, though a young man,
has made a special study of questions
pertaining to criminals and to the
present day methods of punishing and
imprisoning convicts. He has come in
personal contact with the prison keep-
ers and the prisoners themselves and
for two days was a voluntary "con-
vict" in the Campbell county chaing-
gang. During these two days he was
thought an ordinary convict by both
the men and the guards and did his
work with the rest.

Inspects Prisoners Here.

Upon his arrival here Mr. Weltner
was shown through the Chatham coun-
ty jail by Detective Long. He said
that the greatest fault he could find
there was that prisoners who are
awaiting trial and who are presumed

to be innocent until proven guilty are confined in the same places with the hardened convicts who are serving their sentences for crimes of which they have been proven guilty.

Mr. Weltner has not as yet had a chance to visit the chaingangs in Chat-ham county, but said he may do so to-day.

ABOLISH STRIPES, URGES WHITTAKER

Virginia Warden Declares the
Sanitary Conditions in the
Georgia Prison Camp Are
Horrible—Suggests Change

Constitution 4-27-13

"The disgraceful sight of working convicts in stripes and shackles in the streets of Atlanta should be done away with," yesterday declared W. H. Whittaker, warden of the convict farm at Occaquan, Va., who had had fifteen successful years in prison work, and is attending the sessions of the Sociological congress.

Together with Louis J. Bernhardt, the prison expert, and J. L. Strain, of the Sociological congress, Warden Whittaker paid a surprise call at the main white camp in Fulton county Sunday morning, and went through the entire place.

"I think that the fault of the present conditions at that camp should be laid to the indifference of the people, as much as to anything else," he said. "You cannot expect to get efficient men—men who are leaders—to act as guards—for \$1.50 per day.

Camp Entirely Unsanitary.

"The main trouble with the camp that I saw was that it was entirely unsanitary, was not clean in appearance. It needs more whitewash on the outside, more paint on the inside, plenty of flowers and trees to make life at least livable while there.

"The sanitary conditions are horrible. There should be more running water, and the idea of men drinking out of buckets, as they do, is bad enough, but when they eat their food out of buckets, which may or may not be washed enough, it is worse still.

"There should be a dining room there, and present methods of feeding prisoners should be done away with.

"Likewise, I should advise the use of shower baths. Five or six men taking a bath in the same tub is never considered sanitary, you know.

"I have had fifteen years' experience in prison work. I have made a practice of never doing anything to humiliate a man after he has been placed in my care if I can help it. Instead of using the hated stripes, as you do here, adding more humiliation, we use dark gray cloth, which is neat in appearance. Likewise, we use no shackles and handcuffs—you do. But we are making men there, first of all, men

who will be of genuine service to the world when they get out into it again.

Flogging Is Barred.

"I learned this morning that you whip convicts with a seven-pound whip—and that you are trying to get permission to flog your women prison-

the awful curse of child labor—and that time is not far off."

At the evening session of the congress, held in Wesley Memorial church, Miss Julia C. Lathrop, director of the Federal Children's Bureau at Washington, D. C., spoke on "The aim and work of the federal children's bureau."

Bishop Wilbur P. Thirkield, of New Orleans, was heard in a masterful sermon on "A Cathedral of Co-Operation."

Tonight in the Wesley Memorial church the fourth general session of the congress will be held, while during the day the various sectional conferences will be held in the various churches of the city.

The Night Session.

"I think that Georgia would profit greatly if the name 'farm' was substituted for 'reformatory,'" said Miss Julia Lathrop at the second general session of the Sociological congress, held in Wesley Memorial church last night.

Miss Lathrop made a brilliant plea for a bureau of vital statistics in Georgia. "Europe, to maintain its armies, must know of the advent of each child in order that no bullet may be without a target; but if this information is valuable in maintaining armies, how much more so valuable would it be in time of peace?"

Dr. Oscar Dowling, president of the Louisiana state board of health, was another speaker who pleaded in the cause of more stringent health laws, and was warmly applauded.

An address out of the ordinary was delivered by Bishop Wilbur P. Thirkield, of New Orleans, who plead for "A Cathedral of Co-Operation," where all would work together for the common good and all in the name of Christianity.

5,976 INDICTED IN LAST TWO YEARS IN PROHIBITION CASES

Figures Filed Those of
1909-10 by 2,971, With
Corrections for 1911-12
666 Against 1,018

STATE PREPARES REPORT

Biennial Statement Shows 514
Held for Murder, With 30

Death Sentences

Mmt. Adv. 3-9-13

Violating the liquor law is the predominant crime in Alabama, according to figures compiled by Attorney General Robert C. Brickell for his biennial report, which will be published soon. It is shown by the figures that there were 5,976 persons indicted for this offense during the two years from October 1, 1910, to September 30, 1912. For the two years covered by the preceding report the number indicted for this offense was 3,005. The 1912 report shows that of the 5,976 indicted, 1,866 were convicted, 518 acquitted, 2,392 not prosessed and 704 withdrawn. Of the 3,005 in the 1910 report, 1,018 were convicted, 418 acquitted, 1,049 not prosessed and 520 withdrawn.

It is explained that the large number of cases not prosessed is due to the fact that when one conviction is obtained against the offender the other cases are dropped or not prosessed. Of fenders are indicted sometimes on each sale they are caught making and later all the cases, with one exception, are not prosessed in order that the offender may be convicted.

A large number of the cases were not prosessed in Birmingham, Montgomery and Mobile when the Smith bill went into effect. This raised the number of not prosessed cases to an unusually large amount.

The percentage of convictions in all criminal cases in Alabama in the 1912 report was 42 1-3, as compared with 48 for the preceding report. The drop in percentage is due to the large number of cases not prosessed for violation of the liquor law.

Cases Total 25,449.

The total number of cases in the 1912 report is 25,449, as compared to 20,066 in the 1910 report. In 1911-12 there were 10,870 convicted and 3,202 acquitted, compared with 9,490 and 2,891 in 1909-10.

In 1911-12 there were 9,477 cases not prosessed, 1,900 withdrawn, thirty death sentences imposed, 1,421 penitentiary sentences, 2,364 hard labor sentences, 394 jail sentences and 6,981 fines.

The thirty death sentences included twenty-nine for first degree murder and one for arson in the first degree. There were ninety-two life sentences imposed for murder in the first degree.

The number of persons who met death at the hands of others in 1911-12 amounted to 701, as compared with 623 in 1909-10. There were 280 indicted for murder in the first degree, 234 for murder in the second degree, 122 for manslaughter in first degree and sixty-five for manslaughter in the second degree.

There is a marked increase in the number of concealed weapon charges,

the 1912 totals being 1,502 indictments with 831 convictions, as compared with 1,226 cases and 593 convictions in 1910.

Increases also were shown in the indictments for gaming, the 1912 report showing 2,125 cases for this offense compared with 1,339 in the previous report. Public drunkenness increased, too, the 1912 figures being 1,012 compared with the 1910 figures of 635.

One Single Election Bet.

There was one person arrested dur-

ing the two years for the crime of "changing hog marks." This offender, however, was acquitted.

One doughty individual displayed his temper and sent a challenge for a duel to another, and his case is recorded under the head of "sending a challenge." He, too, was acquitted.

Another man was arrested on the charge of "bartering an office," but was acquitted. A "fugitive from justice" was a charge brought against one man, but he was discharged.

Although 1912 was a Presidential year and excitement ran high for many months, there was only one person who had the hardihood to make a wager on the result. He was promptly arrested on the charge of "betting on an election," but was not convicted. It is declared that the certainty of a Democratic landslide was the cause of the paucity of arrests for the offense.

The figures have been turned over to the printer and the volume will be published in a few weeks. The work was done by Attorney General Robert C. Brickell, aided by Howard Seay, Assistant Attorney General.

PRISON SCHOOLS AS

Mmt. Adv. 7-31-13
DOORS OF HOPE
Maintained in 44 Out of 55
Prisons.

Washington, D. C., July 28.—That even prison life is yielding to modern humanitarian impulses is indicated in the number of prisons that are maintaining schools for the benefit of prisoners. One of fifty-five prisons in the United States and Canada reporting to the United States Bureau of Education, forty-four have schools. In thirty-three of these a civilian head teacher is in charge. Altogether there are twenty-seven evening schools, nineteen day schools, and eight correspondence schools. Both academic and trade subjects are taught.

In arguing for schools in prisons, Dr. A. C. Hill, of the New York state education department, who has prepared a bulletin on the subject for the United States Bureau of Education, points out that there are three ways of handling a man whom the courts have pronounced unfit to remain in society: "First, he may be put to death at once; second, he may be slowly killed in a destructive environment; third, he may be placed in a favorable environment and restored to normal health if possible."

Prison schools represent an attempt to apply the last of these methods, according to Dr. Hill. "Schools in prison are the expression of the highest conception yet formed of the proper way to deal with men and women segregated from society for violating its laws," he says. "They are on outgrowth of the belief that the door of hope must never be closed to any human being. They stand for opportunity. They are humanity's offer of help to overcome the inertia and despair that settle down upon a man disgraced and deprived of his liberty."

Prison libraries form an important educational factor, and special attention is given to them in the bureau's bulletin. Dr. Hill notes that there is usually plenty of books, but that the quality of the reading matter is seldom

terval before Aug. 7, when Secretary Gamboa will take office, the portfolio of Foreign Affairs will be held by the present Minister of Public Instruction, Dr. Garza Aldape. He has spent some time in the United States and State Department officials said he was in sympathy with American institutions.

Commander Kittile of the gunboat Wheeling reported from Frontera that American fears there have been allayed by the arrival of 400 Mexican federal troops, who are driving the rebels away from the city. Admiral Fletcher, commanding the American squadron in the Gulf of Mexico, reported that he intended to order the gunboat Wheeling to visit Puerto Mexico, state of Vera Cruz; Campeche, in Tabasco, and Progreso, in Yucatan, to observe conditions as they affect the Ameri-

CITY CONVICTS MAY BE LEASED INSIDE COUNTY

Governor O'Neal Explains Rule
Adopted by State Convict

Board Recently
Mmt. Adv. 6-23-13

No effort has been made by Governor O'Neal or the members of the Convict Board to interfere with the convict leases made by cities in Alabama when such leases are made in compliance with the law, according to a statement of Governor O'Neal. The Governor says the rules adopted by the Convict Board at his direction do not permit a city to lease its convicts in another county, and this is the practice which the Convict Board seeks to stop.

Reports have reached Governor O'Neal that several cities of Alabama are leasing their convicts to contractors in other counties and the Governor says there is no law which authorizes such an action on the part of a municipality. Montgomery has complied with the law in that the convicts have been leased to contractors who work the men inside the county.

Governor O'Neal declared, however, that the rules of the Department relative to requiring cities and counties to provide sanitary quarters, proper food and proper medical attention will be rigidly enforced. These rules were drawn up at a meeting of the Convict Board, at which Governor O'Neal was present.

It is the purpose of the Governor and the Convict Board, according to the Governor's statement, to obtain the same treatment for city and county convicts, as is accorded the State convicts. Each convict that is leased by a city must be worked in the county in which he is convicted, according to the Governor.

PRISONER LOSES SIGHT AND MIND

**Nineteen-Year-Old Boy Driven
Insane and Blind by**

Mistreatment

THE CONVICT SYSTEM

**Mobile Item Attacks Brutal Meth-
ods of State Officials and Calls
Upon Governor to Take Action.**

DRIVERS AT CAMP BRUTAL

**Thomas Ross Was in Good Health when
Taken Prisoner, but Now He is a Mental
and Physical Wreck.**

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., May 13.—If Alabama continues it will rival Siberia in its tyrannies as far as Negroes committed to the care of the State as prisoners are concerned. So outrageous have been the revelations of the various investigations now being made that the newspapers of the State are determined that a quick change with reference to prison conditions shall be made.

Nothing more revolting has recently been published than the story of Thomas Ross, a nineteen-year-old boy, who was rendered blind and insane under the lash of officials at the Huxford and Orvin Naval Stores Company's convict camp at Atmore. The Mobile Item has called upon Gov. O'Neal and the State authorities to cause prosecution against those said to be guilty of felony. Cognizance of the charges was taken Saturday by Dr. William H. Oates, State prison inspector, who immediately conferred with the Governor. What course was decided on was not determined, but it indicated that an immediate investigation of the alleged cruelties will be thoroughly investigated.

The Item declares that Ross was in good health when sent to the camp from Mobile for a hard labor sentence and publishes an account to the effect that the youth was finally driven insane and

blind, and is now an inmate of the insane asylum at Mount Vernon.

"It is in evidence," declares the Item, "that the Negro youth was in good health when he was sentenced to hard labor by the judge of the city court. Subsequently his stepfather, who appears to be an industrious and respectable man, learned that the youth was sick at the convict camp. He visited the camp to investigate and the Item's news columns tell the remainder of the story in the following:

Youth Was Delirious.

"He was informed by his son and others, he says, that the illness was the result of severe punishment administered by the drivers of the convict camp. The boy at first was unable to recognize his stepfather and deliriously kept up a motion of dodging, as if he were afraid of being whipped.

"After several months of waiting the stepfather of the prisoner sought the whereabouts of the boy. Appeals to the Huxford and Orvin company were vain, he says, and the mother of the boy was driven almost to despair. As a last resort the father inserted an advertisement.

"Following publication of the advertisement inquiry at the county resulted in information to the effect that Ross, who became blind and insane while at the camp, had been transferred to the Negro Insane Asylum at Mount Vernon, where, it is said, he is at the present time."

In discussing the matter further, the Item declares that "if his blindness and insanity were caused by the brutality of his keepers, these men have been guilty of a felony, and should be promptly prosecuted. In the name of the enlightened people of Alabama the Item calls upon the Governor of the State to set the legal machinery in motion which will determine whether or not the convict guards have been guilty of this outrageous crime against civilization.

"On the last occasion when a complaint of brutality was made through the columns of the Item against the Huxford and Orvin camp, the then president of the convict board, James G. Oakley, declared that the complaint was not well founded and the State did not institute an investigation. At this time the people of the State have a better estimate of the credibility of James G. Oakley.

"The authorities of Mobile County have investigated the same camp on two occasions without result."

No Small Matter.

"The blindness and insanity of the unfortunate Negro youth who is the latest victim of the convict leasing system should not be the subject of a county investigation," continued the Item. "If a felony has been committed as appears upon the statement of fact published the offence is outside the jurisdiction of

SHERIFF HOOD SCORED IN INSPECTOR OATES' REPORT

Mont. Adv.
6-24-13
Big Profit Made on County

**Prisoners' Feed, Governor
Is Told**

Scathing criticism of Sheriff Horace Hood of Montgomery county, for his treatment of prisoners and his alleged utter lack of system and management in conducting his office, and of the filthy and unsanitary condition of the prison building and yard, is contained in a report submitted to Governor O'Neal yesterday afternoon by Dr. William H. Oates, State Prison Inspector. The report grew out of a recent inspection of the jail and an investigation into a complaint filed with the Governor by the white prisoners now confined in the jail, of the quality and quantity of food being served them.

Dr. Oates charges that the sheriff spends only 13 1-2 cents per prisoner per day for feeding them and that the State pays the sheriff 30 cents per day per prisoner, for this food, thus leaving a clear profit to the sheriff of 16 1-2 cents per prisoner or \$9.54 for fifty-six prisoners, the number of incarcerated on the day the inspection was made. Upon the same basis, for thirty days, a clear profit to the sheriff of \$277.20, which rightfully should have been expended on the prisoners for their food, is shown.

Lack of System.

Dr. Oates reported to the Governor that at the Montgomery jail, there seems to be an utter lack of system and management, indifference, carelessness and negligence on every side all of which, in his opinion, is due to inadequate, incompetent help.

Dr. Oates claims that repeated recommendations and orders to Sheriff Hood of various matters that needed correction, have seemingly been of no avail.

The report to the Governor of conditions existing at the jail is voluminous and Dr. Oates details his inspection of each part of the prison building.

One of the sensational charges contained in Dr. Oates' report is that the county pays two negro men, who are employed at the jail as janitors at \$15 each per month, who have supervision over the prison laborers who do what little cleaning there is done, but that one of them, a very old negro, carries the keys to the interior of the prison and performs the duties of turnkey, thus saving the sheriff the expense of hiring a regular turnkey, and that this janitor really does but very little work as janitor, for which he is hired and paid by the county.

"Very Filthy Place."

Dr. Oates described the jail as a very filthy place and declared that the sight that met his eyes in the jail kitchen was nauseating.

"The sanitary condition of the jail to me," said Dr. Oates, "is deplorable."

That a great deal of the bed-

used by the prisoners is filthy and unfit for use, was called to the Governor's attention, and Dr. Oates in a letter to Sheriff Hood, has ordered him to destroy several of the mattresses by burning them. Dr. Oates wrote Sheriff Hood substantially what he reported to the Governor.

The yard of the jail, declares Dr. Oates in the report, presents an unsightly appearance, being full of filth, rubbish and garbage. Attention is called to a pack of hounds kept in the yard, near the kitchen, and Dr. Oates has ordered the sheriff to remove the animals from the premises.

As to the charges made against the sheriff by the white prisoners that the food served them was not sufficient to nourish them and that the diet was never changed, Dr. Oates says that the prisoners have made a just protest.

The report follows in full:

Dr. Oates' Report.

"Hon. Emmet O'Neal, Governor of Alabama, Montgomery, Ala.

"Sir:—

"On June 26, 1913, in company with Dr. Harry T. Lay, County Physician, and my Chief Clerk, Mr. John D. Adams, I inspected the Montgomery County jail and submit herewith the following report:

"At the time of this inspection there were fifty-six persons confined in the jail, viz: Seven white males, forty-two negro males, and seven negro females.

All of the prisoners appeared in fairly good health. Among the number was an insane negro woman, awaiting removal to the insane hospital.

"Upon inquiry among the prisoners, I found considerable complaint and dissatisfaction as to the lack of variety, quality and quantity of the food, and as to the manner in which it was served. As this was at the time of day when dinner was being prepared, we went to the kitchen and made an investigation of the dinner meal before it was served. This meal consisted of one peck of peas, fifteen pounds of bulk side meat (boiled with the peas), one peck of rice and one half bushel of meal made into bread. At the prevailing market price this meal cost, approximately, \$4.15 for fifty-six prisoners, or 7 1-2 cents per prisoner.

Six Cents Each.

"For breakfast, I was informed, they were served meat, rice and cornbread of the same quantity and quality as for dinner, which cost approximately 6 cents each, or a total of 13 1-2 cents for the two meals, only two meals being served daily. As the State pays 30 cents per day for feeding prisoners in excess of forty, this leaves a clear profit to the sheriff of 16 1-2 cents per prisoner, or \$9.54 for the fifty-six; and upon the same basis, for thirty days, \$277.20. For feeding this number of prisoners for thirty days, the State would pay \$504.

"I was informed that for dinner on the day previous, boiled Irish potatoes were substituted for peas. The prisoners informed me that the above diet had been served to them practically without change for the past seven weeks; and that at no time had flour bread or coffee constituted a part of their diet.

"All the cooking is done by prisoners in the jail, and, inasmuch as they are constantly coming and going, the cooking is never done for any length of time by the same person.

There is a decided manifestation of indifference and ignorance as to the cooking. It would be a difficult matter for me to convey to your mind just how poorly prepared and unwholesome the food is, and for this reason, I submitted to you a sample of the bread and meat for your personal inspection.

Cook Questioned.

"When I questioned the cook as to how the bread was made, he told me that it was meal and water, mixed with the proper amount of salt, spread out in dry pans, a little meat grease poured over the top, then baked. The bread browns nicely on the top, but not on the bottom. The grease saved from time to time from fried meat which is given the prisoners at breakfast. This grease is kept in stone jars, which are kept in a cupboard in one corner of the kitchen. This cupboard has been complained of by me a number of times, and positive instructions given to keep it clean. I have always found it in a filthy condition and full of rubbish of all description, and am today ordering its removal.

"The kitchen was in an uncleanly and insanitary condition; there are a number of garbage cans in the kitchen, all of which were very filthy, some with covers, but most without. A corner of the room near the door is a favorite place for the sweepings. Owing to the fact that the greater part of the work throughout the jail is performed by prisoners, who are not confined in cells, and who have access to the kitchen, the door leading from the kitchen into the yard is necessarily kept locked, and this is one reason why the kitchen is not kept more cleanly. The kitchen also seems to be a favorite loafing place for all the prisoners who are not confined in their cells.

Should Be Washed.

"The window glasses are extremely dirty and should be washed.

"A great deal of the bedding is filthy and unfit for use, and several of the mattresses should be burned.

"The yard presents an unsightly appearance. It is full of filth, rubbish and garbage. The garbage is removed from the jail and jail yard irregularly, and a pack of hound dogs is kept in the enclosure.

"Two negro men are employed by the county as janitors, at \$15 each per month, and these have supervision over the prison laborers who do what little cleaning there is to be done. One of these janitors, Dennis Cross, a very old negro, carries the keys to the interior of the jail and performs the duties of a turn-key, but really very little janitor service.

"To review the situation briefly, there seems to be an utter lack of system and management, indifference, carelessness and negligence on every side, all of which in my opinion is due to inadequate, incompetent help.

Repeated Visits.

"I have made repeated visits to this jail, called the attention of the sheriff to the various matters that needed correction, as to proper cleaning, etc., seemingly all without avail. I even went so far, a few months ago, as to put one of my men in actual charge of the cleaning up of this jail for a whole week. There are a number of improvements at present being made by the Board of Revenue, notably painting of the interior.

"Among the prisoners confined in

the jail I desire to call your attention to the case of a little negro boy, twelve years of age, named William Barnes, accused of attempting to wreck a street car, by placing rocks and bolts on the track. This boy has been in jail awaiting trial for three or four months, and is confined with a number of grown negro prisoners. Another case is that of Mack Young, a negro accused of rape. This negro has one arm off at the elbow, and the other off above the wrist. The last mentioned case was from the Recorder's Court.

Dr. Lay Concurs.

"In concluding, I desire to say that Dr. Lay concurs with me in this report, and to state further that had his suggestions been followed, upon his frequent visits to the jail the present bad state of affairs would not have existed.

"I enclose herewith a copy of recommendations made to the Board of Revenue of Montgomery County; likewise, copy of letter of recommendations to the sheriff.

"In conclusion I want to state that the jailer, Captain Cheney, is doing all he can do under the circumstances, and, in my opinion, is over-worked.

"Respectfully submitted,

"W. H. Oates,

"State Prison Inspector."

"Mr. Horace Hood, Sheriff,
Montgomery, Alabama.

"Dear Sir:

"On the 26th of June, 1913, in compliance with written order from the Governor, I inspected the Montgomery County Jail, having received from His Excellency particular instructions as to the inspection of the food supplied the prisoners.

Report Enclosed.

"You will please find enclosed a copy of my report, to the Governor, of the above described inspection.

"The complaint of the prisoners as to their food is just and equitable. They are not being properly fed, and means must be instituted immediately to remedy this defect. Where forty or fifty people are incarcerated in an institution, the feeding of them cannot be left to ignorant negro prisoners. This defect can easily be remedied by employing sufficient intelligent help in the kitchen.

"I see no evidence of systematic cleansing. An institution of this size must needs be cleaned daily to secure the amount of cleanliness essential to the health of the inmates.

"The blankets should be washed not less than once a week, and sunned daily.

"A number of filthy mattresses and blankets should be destroyed.

"The sanitary condition of the kitchen is to me deplorable. The filth and dirt on the tables, where the food is prepared, is nauseating. The dirt, trash and garbage in the corner should be removed and should never be allowed to accumulate there.

Should Be Locked.

"The kitchen should be locked separate from the jail and paid help only used therein, except while the prisoners are being served and then the outer door could be locked.

"The garbage cans should be outside the kitchen and should be four in number, two for liquid and two for solid garbage. These cans should be kept covered and should be emptied, cleaned and whitewashed daily.

"You should see to it that all open-

ings leading into the kitchen are properly screened against flies.

"You are directed to remove from the jail premises the pack of hounds which is now kept there.

"I find that Dennis Cross, who is paid by the county as janitor, is serving not as janitor, but as turnkey. In my opinion this old negro is incapacitated, owing to his age, to perform the duties of janitor.

"You are instructed to remove from the premises the cupboard in the kitchen. I see little use for it other than a storage place for filth and rubbish. Repeated efforts on my part to have this cupboard kept in a cleanly condition have been without avail.

Should Be Cleaned.

"The pantry in which the provisions are stored should also be cleaned out, and kept in a sanitary condition, free from the accumulation of trash and rubbish and screened against flies.

"In view of the fact that the interior of the jail is at present being thoroughly cleaned and repainted, at a large expense to the county, you should prevent the indiscriminate practice of chewing tobacco and spitting upon the walls and floors of the jail, even to the extent of preventing the use of tobacco by the prisoners, if necessary to accomplish this end.

"The fact that a great quantity of the food served the prisoners is not consumed by them, to a casual observer would seem that they are over-

Age 6-5-13

DR. BOOTH MAKES PLEA

Urges That Convict Money Be Given to Families—Alabama Enriching Itself from Convict Labor.

Montgomery, Ala., May 29.—Declaring that the "State does not want a prison-support for her subjects," but that "she wants support from an intelligent, orderly, industrious, economic and tax-paying citizenry," Dr. Chas. O. Booth, of Tuskegee, one of the best known Negro preachers in Alabama, has written the Rev. W. B. Crumpton of Montgomery, corresponding secretary of the State Baptist mission board and president of the Alabama Anti-Saloon League, pleading for the passage of an act by the Alabama Legislature appropriating all the earnings of the convicts above their expenses, "to the dependent wives, children and parents of Alabama prisoners."

Pronouncing Dr. Booth as "one of the most Godly colored preachers" in Alabama, Dr. Crumpton has issued a letter to the press endorsing the views of the Tuskegee preacher but more forcefully declaring that the matter "is one of the most serious questions before the people of Alabama."

Present System a Mill.

"Our system of convict handling is a mill that grinds out criminals for the state, a regiment a year," states Dr. Crumpton. "They are already a great

army that threatens to destroy the fair name of our beloved state. By that system we are seeking to enrich the state by the fire from these unfortunate creatures, while their families starve, or grow up in ignorance and vice.

"The system takes hope out of the hearts of the convicts, feeling out of the hearts of those who handle them, and opens the way for all sorts of corruption. Doubtless, if the probe were used in other states, it would reveal disgraceful conditions as we have found them in Alabama.

"I ask the publication of Dr. Booth's letter and beg for its careful reading. Some brainy, humane man, who has the time and patience to go into this, can do a great service to the state. Some heartless ones may condemn or abuse him, but God and the best of our citizens will crown him with blessings."

Dr. Crumpton declares that Dr. Booth "stands well with his own people, and the white everywhere have the profoundest respect for him."

Appalling Prison Record.

In his letter to Dr. Crumpton, the Tuskegee preacher sets out his arguments under two captions. He first draws attention to "The appalling prison records by Alabama against her Negro population, and the facts which such records involve."

"I made an examination of the figures on the state books at the capitol, as these figures had been sent in by the sheriffs from the different counties of Alabama, for the first six months of 1912," he says. "My findings for these first six months were: Whites reported 2,000, with 107 of them women; Negroes, 7,000 males and 1,100 females. Counting at this rate for the whole of 1912, we find that 14,000 Negro males and 2,200 Negro females were jailed in our state during 1912. And I was informed that the quadrennial report of the prisons for 1906-10 does not give such damaging evidence against the Negro as do the facts now obtaining in the various state and county prisons. I was told in the office at the Capitol that now 90 per cent. of the state's prisoners are Negroes. If the income to Alabama from prison labor be \$1,000,000 annually—and this the governor admits to be true—and if 90 per cent. of the prisoners be Negroes, it must follow that \$700,000 or \$800,000 is the result of Negro labor. Supposing the average of each convict \$25 per month or \$800 annually, we take it for granted that Alabama holds at least 2,500 or 3,000 Negro prisoners under sentence. This does not include city prisoners nor those state prisoners awaiting trial and sentence."

What It Means.

Dr. Booth then discusses his second topic entitled "What this fact means."

"Unless some gracious measures shall follow these prisoners into prison saving them from the hardening processes of the prison spirit," he declares, "their degradation is increased and they (many of them) will return to liberty to be sources of moral corruption to all whom they touch. This means an increase of crime and further social degradation.

"But the greater harm does not fall upon the criminal, but upon the innocent lives joined to his. By divine appointment, by nature's laws, the

value of the husband's labor with the value of the father's labor is the right of wife or child.

"The right and duty of the state to imprison any citizen whose liberty threatens or harms the liberty, the property, or person of other citizens, are evident and admitted. And the state is authorized and bound to put that party to some form of useful, remunerative labor, no one will deny. The prisoner should be made at least to bear all the expenses which his bad conduct imposes upon the state. Yes, more, he should be compelled to earn an income about equal to his producing power. But, is the state justly authorized to put into her coffers any more of the prisoner's earnings than the prisoner costs her? Does not the wife or child made dependent by the imprisonment of the prisoner still hold her or his God-given claim upon the life and property of the person imprisoned. By what law could it be otherwise?

"The states does not want a prison-support from her subjects; she wants intelligent, orderly, industrious, economic, and tax-paying citizens. If these dependent ones shall receive nothing to keep them alive, to help them ennoble themselves, how can we hope for a higher order of life than that which leads to prison. Their want and sufferings mean more crime.

"Before the white ministers on last Monday, I begged that a sentiment should be started in Alabama in favor of asking the general assembly of Alabama to pass an act appropriating all the convict money above expenses, to the dependent wives, children and parents of Alabama prisoners. I am now making the same plea to you. I imagine you the state and that I am the dependent child, standing before you emaciated, hungry, naked, dirty, homeless; and I imagine that with uplifted hands I am asking for only a part of what is left of my father's income, beyond or remaining above the claim of the state for expenses.

"Knowing your great heart, I know just what it would do, whether I were white or black. You, like myself, must soon go from this world of sin and suffering to the land where love reigns supreme; but humanity shall stay behind, more or less affected by the living thoughts projecting from our lives while we were still in the flesh."

NEGRO CRIME AND JUVENILE PREVENTION

Last Sunday in a full page article illustrated, Miss Ethel Armes wrote conclusively and convincingly on crime in Birmingham, its eradication and some of the methods of preventing it. She declared that the Negro was not entirely responsible for the gravity of the situation as he was so frequently charged, and suggested that better care and protection for the youth of both races would help considerably. In fact, adequate support of the Juvenile Court and volunteer efforts to supplement the work of Miss Charlotte H. Moore and J. W. Poole, probation officer, was stressed by this able writer as the real remedy.

We take considerable gratification over the fact that the writer went to

considerable pains to show the people generally that there is a good, prosperous and law abiding element. It is too bad that the general public does not know that fact already, but we faithfully commend to them Miss Armes' article. To show the viewpoint of the representative Negro, the writer quoted at length from two editorials in recent issue of the Birmingham Reporter, thus widening effectively, we hope, the sphere of our influence. It is a curious coincidence that the very editorials that Miss Armes selected were two, one on "The Negro's Civic Duty," in which we told the colored folks to pay their taxes and vote—the other on "Crime in Birmingham," in which we sought to show that the Negro criminal was the victim rather than the cause of so much crime. These self-same editorials were severely criticised by some of our would-be leaders, because forsooth, some of the white people might not like them. We can't please all the people and have about come to the conclusion that it is useless to try. We thank the writer for her reference to our efforts. We do not know how accurately we reflect the Negro pulse, but we make a strenuous effort to do so.

CONVICT CAMPS IN DEPLORABLE CONDITION

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE. 9-18-13
RALEIGH, N. C., Sept. 16.—The people of this county are aroused over conditions existing in two of the county convict camps, as shown by an inspection made by a committee appointed at the August meeting of the County Commissioners.

The special committee reported to Judge Cook that it found camps 2 and 3 in horrible conditions. The prisoners were compelled to sleep on the floor with only seventeen inches space to each person. The bedding was dirty and infested with vermin. No facility was offered for bathing and the men's clothing was in a filthy condition. The food was poorly cooked and furnished in insufficient quantities. Marks and bruises on the bodies of the prisoners showed that they were whipped unmercifully.

Public indignation has been aroused and steps are being taken to punish the officials responsible for the deplorable conditions.

The N.Y.A. 8-28-13
A. C. BIRD FINED \$100
BY RECORDER ELMORE

A. C. Bird, a young white man, was fined \$100 and costs yesterday afternoon in Recorder's Court on the charge of carrying a concealed pistol. Bird was arrested Friday night on two charges, of being drunk and of carrying a concealed pistol. The charge of drunkenness was dismissed.

Negro Not Guilty of Charge Under Indictment Returned 24 Years Ago

Judge A. D. Sayre Is Only Surviving Member of Court Before Which Case First Came—Sole Witness a Juror.

Arrested twenty-four years after being indicted, then brought before a jury for which the only living witness against him had been drawn as a juror, and then acquitted, was the experience of Stephen Hill, a negro, tried in the criminal division of the City Court Friday for throwing a missile at a passenger train.

In 1889 Hill, who was then a boy ten years old, threw a missile, which crashed through one of the car windows on a train of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The grand jury following the occurrence of the act, which happened near McGhee's Switch, indicted the negro and a warrant was issued for him.

For twenty-four years he has been allowed the freedom of any other man, as far as that warrant was concerned. Last month he was arrested and made to answer charges for a crime which he had almost forgotten.

Brought into the court room where he was to face the charges of many years ago, the negro prisoner found that the only living witness against him was a member of the jury list, from which would be picked the men to hear his case. This man was C. C. Calloway, now a grown man, but who was in his "teens" at the time of the deed, and who happened to be on the train when it occurred.

The negro confessed to throwing the stone, but declared he was throwing at another boy and that his intentions were not to hit the train. The jury said not guilty.

Yellow with age, the indictment, handed from incumbent to incumbent of the clerk's office, had stood against the negro. Witnesses and court officials have died until there is only one of each now living.

Negro is Now 34.

Beside Calloway, the witness, the only other person living who was directly connected with the case or the proceedings, is Associate Justice A. D. Sayre, of the Supreme Court of Alabama. Judge Sayre was then clerk of the court before which the indictment was returned.

The judge before which the indictment was returned was Judge Thomas M. Arrington. The solicitor responsible for the finding of the bill was Tennant Lomax. Both died several years ago.

A boyish prank, for which the defendant, who declares that he has not evaded the law and has been at home since the time, was answered for in court by a man thirty-four years old.

IN FINE CONDITION

Flattering Report on Department Submitted to Governor by J. T. Gorman, Examiner of Accounts

Alabama's Convict Department is making more money and the convicts are better treated than ever before in its history, according to a report of an examination of the affairs of the Convict Department made by J. T. Gorman, Examiner of Public Accounts, which was filed with Governor O'Neal Thursday. Examiner Gorman gives a detailed statement of the receipts and disbursements during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1913, during the administration of Governor O'Neal and during the period in which Hartwell Douglass has served as head of the department.

In his report the examiner compliments the work accomplished under the administration of Mr. Douglass and declares that since the new rules, prepared by Governor O'Neal, Mr. Douglass and the Board of Inspectors, were adopted, the convicts have been more humanely treated and better sanitary conditions have been maintained.

"Since March 1, 1913, there has been a decided improvement in the business methods of the department," says the examiner.

Books and accounts of Dan G. Tra- wick, Chief Clerk, and H. H. Stewart, manager of the State cotton mill at Speigner, are correctly and accurately kept, says the examiner. He also reports that the system of bookkeeping in the department is excellent and proper vouchers for all receipts and disbursements are on file. Goods are purchased from the lowest and best bidder, according to the report.

Receipts in Excess.

Receipts for the fiscal year exceeded the disbursements by \$401,953. The receipts for the year totalled \$1,131,297. From March 1, 1913, to September 30, 1913, the receipts exceeded the disbursements by \$288,070. There is \$24,844 due the department, of which \$222 is owed by the Red Feather Coal Company of Bibb County, and \$5,954 by

the Thole-Phillips Company of Florence. Examiner Gorman recommends that suit be brought against the companies by the Attorney General, unless settlement is made at once.

On September 30 there were 2,469 convicts held by the State. Of these 1,149 were working in the coal mines and the rest were confined at Speigner, the lumber camps and the State farms. The State received an average of \$38.18 a month or a net average of \$13.90 a month from each convict. The State has received annually from each able bodied convict more than \$500, and the net cost per year for each convict has been \$291. Following is the report of Examiner Gorman:

"Hon. Emmet O'Neal, Governor of Alabama, Montgomery, Ala.:

"Dear Sir—In obedience to instructions received from the executive office I have examined the books, accounts and vouchers of the Convict Department, including those of the cotton factory at Speigner, from March 1, 1913, to September 30, 1913.

"This embraces a short period while the department was under the control of the executive office, the administration of Hon. M. B. Wellborn, from March 24, 1913, to April 6, 1913, and the administration of Hon. Hartwell Douglass, from April 6, 1913, to September 30, 1913.

"During this period the books of the department have been correctly and accurately kept by Hon. D. G. Tra- wick, chief clerk.

"The system of book keeping in the department is excellent, and the only suggestion I have to make thereto is to keep a ledger showing the unpaid accounts and for what camps the goods were purchased.

"Proper vouchers are on file for all receipts and disbursements.

Books Correctly Kept.

"The books of Hon. H. H. Stewart at Speigner, are correctly kept, and all sales and shipments of goods have been reported to, and entered on the books of the Department at Montgomery.

"Since March 1, 1913, there has been a decided improvement in the business methods of the department.

"These rules and regulations for the Government of the department are being strictly enforced.

"Several offices at different camps have been abolished and several others have been consolidated.

"Goods are purchased from the lowest and best bidders.

"The department is making more money and the convicts are better treated than ever before in its history.

"On June 24, 1913, the Board of Convict Inspectors and the State Prison Inspectors adopted, and the Governor approved, a system of rules and regulations for county and municipal convicts.

Regulations Conform.

"These rules and regulations conform, as near as possible, to those of State convicts.

"Under these rules and regulations, the convicts are more humanely treated, the working hours fixed, the amount and quality of the food and clothing regulated and better sanitary conditions required.

"The following are the receipts and disbursements of the department from March 1, 1913, to September 30, 1913:

Months.	Receipts.	Disbursements.
March..	\$120,070.71	\$ 59,659.97
April..	91,442.28	23,846.92
May..	89,253.42	28,118.89
June..	106,134.48	99,147.72
July..	114,653.53	90,650.54
August..	97,535.33	64,663.92
September..	98,239.74	72,171.37

Total.....\$717,329.49 \$429,258.93

Excess of receipts over disbursements.....\$288,070.56

Average monthly receipts... 102,475.54

Average monthly expenses... 61,322.70

Average monthly net receipts..... 41,152.85

"In addition to these receipts, contractors owe the State \$24,844.91, and on September 30, 1913, there were \$22,033.50 worth of cotton goods, and \$7,702.50 worth of cotton on hand at Speigner, and \$40,000 worth of cotton and \$30,000 worth of corn raised on the farms at Speigner, No. 4, and Wetumpka this year.

For Seven Months.

"This makes a total of \$184,850.90, which added to the above amount, makes the actual receipts of the department \$902,180.32 for seven months.

"After deducting the \$89,348.28 embezzled by Lacy, the receipts of the Convict Department for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1913, are the largest in its history as will be seen by comparison with five previous years, when its receipts were the highest.

"The receipts of the department show monthly increases.

"For instance, in September, 1913, the receipts from the four companies mining coal, were \$5,913.84 more than the receipts for August, 1913.

Convicts Total 2,469.

"On September 30, 1913, the State had 2,469 convicts located as follows:

Wetumpka	325
Speigner	323
Number 4	87
Sanford	238
Greer	26
Shreeve	87
Samson	41
River Falls	51
Banner Mines	345
Flat Top	308
Lucile	252
Belle Ellen	244
Florence	57
McPhaul Turp. Co.	55

Total 2,469

"Of these convicts, 745 are confined in the penitentiary, working in the cotton factory at Speigner, and on the State farm at No. 4, 309 are working in saw mills, 209 on turpentine farms, 57 in a stove factory, and 1,149 in coal mines.

"During the fiscal year ending September 30, 1913, each convict has averaged the State gross per annum, \$458.16, or \$38.18 per month.

"Each convict has cost the State an average of \$291.31 per annum, or \$24.27 per month.

"The State has made net an average of \$166.85 per annum for each convict, or an average of \$13.90 per month.

"Deducting the tuberculosis convicts and those incapable of performing physical labor, the State has received annually over \$500 from each able-bodied convict.

"All amounts due the State from contractors have been paid, except as follows:

requires the President of the Board of Convict Inspectors to have the clerk, on the first day of each month, to make out an account against each contractor, for the number of convicts and the amount due for the preceding month, which accounts the contractors must settle within ten days after receiving the same.

Shall Bring Suit.

"If the contractor fails to settle within thirty days after receiving the account, the President of the Board shall notify the Attorney General, who shall bring suit at once for the amounts due.

"The clerk has made out these accounts, as required by this section. The Phillips Manufacturing Company, located at Florence, Ala.

has failed to pay the State \$5,954.62, and the Red Feather Coal Company, located at Blockton, Alabama, has failed to pay the State \$18,322.13, due on their contracts.

"W. H. Perry, manager of the Red Feather Coal Company, owes the State \$568.16 for the board of county convicts.

"This makes a total of \$24,844.91 due the State as follows:

The Phillips Mfg. Company	\$ 5,954.62
Red Feather Coal Company	18,322.13
W. H. Perry	568.16

"Total \$24,844.91

"Unless these amounts are promptly paid, I recommend that they be placed in the hands of the Attorney General for suit.

"Section 7620 of the Code of 1907, provides that in all cases where the sentence is to imprisonment for more than two years, the judge must sentence the defendant to the penitentiary.

"The records show that in some instances the judges have violated this section by sentencing the defendants to hard labor for the county.

"I recommend that the department promptly investigate all such cases and report them to the Governor."

Advertiser
11-19-13

SER. WEDNESDAY MORNING NEGRO APEALS CASE ON "UNWRITTEN LAW"

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18—On the ground that the "unwritten law" should apply to the negro as well as to the white man, Carl Oliver, a negro of Franklin county, Texas, today appealed to the supreme court to set aside the death sentence imposed on him for the murder of Franklin D. Stanley a white man. Oliver claimed he shot in self defense when he found Stanley with his wife.

Oliver's attorneys contend that the trial court erred in refusing to charge the jury that under the laws of Texas and the United States a negro is entitled to the same rights in defending the honor of his house as a white man would be under the same circumstances.

CONVICT BUREAU IS

Of the many illuminating statements made by the distinguished lawyers gathered at the recent annual meeting of the American Bar Association held at Montreal, Canada, none had greater significance or came in for more wide spread discussion than the statement of Viscount Haldane, Lord High Chancellor of England, that it wasn't so much the fear of punishment, by the courts as the fear of the public opinion, that restrained men from becoming violators of the law. It indeed requires no unusual stretch of thought for one to appreciate the truthfulness of Viscount Haldane's statement. From time immemorial, the conduct of men has been largely shaped and guided by public opinion. Especially is this true of men whose position in the society, business or political world is high. Few men whose station in life is high will fly, as it were, in the face of the public opinion and do that which will receive its condemnation. Oftimes when one is tempted "to take the law in his own hands" in order to revenge himself upon some disturber of his peace and quiet, he hesitates in so doing, not so much on account of fear of the punishment which the court may mete out to him as the fear that the public opinion will condemn his act. Accepting the foregoing as a fact, one can readily see how necessary it is for both state and nation to build up a strong public opinion in favor of law and order in order that their citizens may become more and more inclined to right living and right doing and less inclined to violate the law. This can only be done through education. There would be far less lynching and mob violence in this country if public opinion through education were made sufficiently strong to condemn it. As long as their exists in this country a maudlin public opinion against crime and disorder, so long will there be found an abundance of violators of the law in both high and low stations. The time has come when American public opinion against crime should be made strong. In every home, in every school and in every church upon American soil, a vigorous campaign against crime and disorder

should be waged. The American youth should be taught early in his career that he cannot expect to hold a place of prominence in the social, political or business world if he refuses to obey the law in all of its aspects. He should be taught to understand that a complete ostracism will be his if he commits a crime or winces at one in any way. Whenever he is so instructed; whenever he is so brought up; a greater respect for law and order will he have and thus less will be the tendency in him to break the law or tolerate anyone who becomes a violator of the law. The importance and truthfulness of Viscount Haldane's statement presents itself to us in bold relief. We sincerely trust that it will have its weight with the American people of whom we are a part.

EIGHT NEGRO CONVICTS

SUFFOCATE IN PRISON

Mont Adde
Four Survivors Say Guards Answered Brutally When Told Men Were Dying

9-9-13
RICHMOND, TEX., Sept. 8.—The suffocation of eight negro convicts in an underground cell on the State prison farm Saturday night, today aroused an investigation, backed by the Governor of Texas, the Attorney General's Department, the Prison Commission and the local police authorities.

Twelve negroes, as a punishment for laziness in picking cotton, were locked in this cell over night Saturday. Its dimensions are about nine feet by seven and seven feet high. Its roof is double with air holes placed so that no two shall be opposite each other, in order not to admit light. There are four of these airholes in the floor, fed by pipes.

Many times before this cell has been used for confining several convicts at a time but with no fatal results. Saturday, however, was an unusually sultry day, one of the hottest of the summer throughout Texas, with temperatures reaching nearly 100 degrees. At 8 o'clock Saturday night, according to Captain Blakely, manager of the prison farm here, the convicts in the dark cell called for water and a bucketful was passed into them, but after that nothing more was heard from them. Reports are conflicting as to whether there was a struggle in the cell.

Wednesday has been set for the hearing of three guards arrested in connection with the suffocation. C. A. Stevenson, Assistant Attorney Gen-

eral, arrived here today to investigate personally for his department.

The four survivors today told Police Justice Fenn and the State Prison Commissioners they yelled repeatedly during the night:

"Men are dying in here!"

The guards replied, they asserted: "You will all wish you were dead if you don't make less noise."

Justice Fenn, examining the "dark cell" today, found only three air holes in the floor, each about the size of a quarter. The fourth hole was stopped up. The fourth survivor had sucked air from a crack at the bottom of the floor.

CHAINS ORDERED REMOVED

FROM WOUNDED NEGRO

Mont Adde 3-11-13
Governor Indignant Over Discovery of Manacles on Tarver in Local Hospital.

Sheriff Horace Hood was directed Friday by Dr. W. H. Oates to remove manacles placed on Bernard Tarver, the negro who was shot in the county jail last week by W. J. Fuller. Tarver was taken to a local hospital for treatment following the shooting and while there he was chained to his bed. Dr. Oates discovered his condition and at once ordered the sheriff to remove the chains. Dr. Oates say he was told by Governor O'Neal that unless the manacles were taken from the man, the executive would parole the negro.

Sheriff Hood took the chains off the negro and has provided guards for him as provided by law. Dr. Oates took photographs of the negro as he was chained to his bed and showed the prints to Governor O'Neal. The Governor was indignant at the treatment accorded to Tarver.

Misfortune seems to pursue the Tarver negro as he was shot in the Montgomery county jail through a mistake on the part of W. J. Fuller, who was making an attempt to kill Bud Hannon. The negro was sentenced to a short term for assault and battery and served his term as a convict. He was then held on the same charge before the City Court of Montgomery, it being claimed that he had committed a felony and had not been tried for the offense. He was at the jail awaiting the decision of the Supreme Court on his case.

Dr. Oates says the condition of the negro is improving, but that there was no excuse for fastening him to the bed with chains. The code provides that it is the duty of the sheriff to furnish a sufficient number of guards to keep a prisoner of this kind in custody. It is said that the sheriff has had trouble in collecting his fees for this class of guards in the past.

THE WHITE MAN AND CRIME.

How on earth can a white man be guilty of the murder of a Negro? This question is again forced vividly to

the attention of Negroes by the acquittal of a deputy sheriff of Autauga County for killing a Negro prisoner in his custody while the Negro was handcuffed. Of course the testimony of the deputy was that the Negro attacked him and he shot in self-defense from the ground. An autopsy disproved this testimony, and the testimony of the defendant that he handcuffed the prisoner after he had killed him is too absurd to be considered by sensible men. Yet, after all, he was adjudged innocent by a jury of his peers. Note what the Age-Herald has to say with reference to the affair:

The Wells Verdict.

Different individuals will act differently under exactly the same circumstances. This trite truism is brought to mind by the case of W. L. Wells, a deputy sheriff tried in Autauga county on a charge of murder.

Wells had in his custody a Negro securely handcuffed. They were alone. The Negro asked Wells to free his hands for a minute, and when the deputy humbly complied, the Negro attacked him desperately. Wells then shot the Negro twice, killing him. Then the officer stooped down and again put the iron upon the wrists of the black and "went for help."

Such was the story told the jury. Wells was acquitted, despite the fact that Governor O'Neal had employed special counsel to assist the solicitor.

Most persons would have thought it useless to handcuff a dead Negro, most would not have done so after killing him for the fear that the ironed wrists would prove strong witnesses against them in a court trial.

You never can tell

Constitution 6-22-13
STITUTION, ATLANTA, GA.

RECREATION AND CRIME.

Dah Carey, general manager of Atlanta's park system, has prepared an impressive study of the relation of crime and disease to recreation and recreational facilities. His analysis and statistics, comparing Atlanta with other cities of her class, is published elsewhere. Mr. Carey shows that Atlanta is spending less, proportionately, on parks and playgrounds, than many of the more important American municipalities with which she is classified. His arguments and conclusions are well worth the study of the Atlantan who believes in

human conservation, and in building the race with tomorrow well in view.

It is needless to indorse the connection Mr. Carey sets up between physical well-being and morality. Physicians and students long ago demonstrated these theories exhaustively. The man and woman who has ample recreational facilities is apt to be a good citizen. They are apt to cultivate a sound point of view which combats the criminal instinct. They are provided with an outlet for surplus energy, and that is one of the recognized needs of civilization. They also make better workers, so that from the standpoint of dollars and cents alone, it pays for cities to give opportunities for play to men and women.

Atlanta has gradually evolved a fine park and playground system and for this much credit is due to the vision and executive ability of Mr. Carey. But it is essential that our policy be liberalized. More money spent intelligently on parks and playgrounds would be among the best investments in the power of the municipality.

NEGRESS IS KILLED; DAUGHTER WOUNDED

Sheriff's Deputies Looking For The Negro Who Did The Shooting.

Advertiser 12-27-13
Sheriff Hood and deputies are searching the vicinity of McGehee's Switch for Henry Harris, a negro, who is said to have shot and killed the wife of Dan Griffin, and badly wounded the latter's daughter. The officers were notified of the shooting yesterday afternoon and immediately left for the scene of the killing.

No reason for the shooting was given in the telephone message received here. The crime occurred shortly after noon Friday. All are negroes.

JULY BLOODY MONTH IN OLD JEFFERSON

S.M. A. - 8-3-13.
With Statistics Incomplete,
Coroner Says New Record
Has Been Established

Special to The Advertiser.
BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Aug. 2.—According to Coroner Spain, Jefferson County has had one of the bloodiest months in July in ten or twenty years. Lacking the report of from July 1 to 6, the coroner has already compiled some statistics showing that there were five suicides: James Alexander, at Ensley, carbolic acid; J. E. Budwig, South Highlands, shot himself; Christopher Holzknacht, Woodlawn, shot himself; Henry Naff, North Highlands, shot himself; George Bailey, North Birmingham, carbolic acid.

Nineteen homicides are accounted for in the three weeks of the month, including the shooting of Mary Naff by her husband, and the shooting of W. Louie (Pat) Roney by Ed. Ellis.

Eighteen accidental deaths were investigated in the three weeks, among them the electrocution of Ollie Despain on an electric light pole; Alex. Stanbach, electrocuted at the Wylam mines; Milton Hill, shot by his cousin, Burford Hill, with a pistol thought to be unloaded; Eula May Athey, little child, drowned in an open sewer; Donald A. Kenny and Christopher Gustin, killed during initiation at meeting of the local lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose; Mack Tate, killed in coal mines; Joe Echols, killed by fall from structural work at the Thomas furnaces. Nine deaths from heart failure, measles and other causes out of the ordinary were looked into.

The coroner's salary in Jefferson County is \$100 per month with no fees for traveling and it is proving a hardship on him. He has found it impossible to get about as he would like, not having the funds to do so.

BROTHERS SHOOT UP CHURCH

Advertiser - 12-27-13
Special to The Advertiser.
FORT PAYNE, ALA., Dec. 26.—At Sylvania, a little village on Sand Mountain about eight miles from here, Avery Minor and his brother, undertook to shoot up the Christmas tree, with the result that they are both in jail at this place today. They were both drinking and shot the windows out of the church where the citizens were holding a Christmas tree and otherwise disturbed the congregation. Avery Minor is an old offender and there are already several cases against him and he will doubtless spend the rest of the time between this and circuit court which does not meet until in February, in jail.

O'NEAL ASKS THAT KILLING OF NEGRO BE INVESTIGATED

Governor Hears Geo. Lewis
Was Shot When Handcuffed
to Autauga Deputy

Mont Ad. - 18-18-13

Charges that George Lewis, a negro prisoner, was killed while his hands were manacled by W. L. Wells, a deputy sheriff, will be investigated at the session of the Autauga County grand jury which will be held at Prattville next week, according to a letter received by Governor O'Neal from Judge W. W. Pearson of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit. At the office of the Governor it was stated that Lewis was shot and killed by Wells October 3, and that the deputy sheriff was acquitted of the charge when arraigned before a Justice of the Peace in Autauga County.

In the belief of Kirkman O'Neal, secretary to the Governor, the Lewis negro is the same negro who called several weeks ago at the Governor's office and asked for protection. Lewis declared at that time he was summoned to appear as a witness in Autauga County, and that he feared violence should he return to that county. This belief of Mr. O'Neal is shared by Judge C. E. Thomas of Prattville, who made an investigation of the case. In a letter to the Governor, Judge Thomas declares the negro who was shot by the deputy is the same one that anticipated violence.

When he called at the office of Governor O'Neal and asked for protection, the Lewis negro was given a letter signed by the Governor which he was told to show to the sheriff of Autauga County. No news was heard from the negro until the story of the killing of Lewis by the deputy was sent to the Governor.

Governor O'Neal has placed the facts in the case before Solicitor Lloyd Tate, and has asked that the matter be investigated. Judge Pearson will also insist that a thorough probe be made of the affair. Judge Pearson wrote Governor O'Neal that he was shocked that such an affair should occur in his circuit, and promised hearty cooperation in the investigation of the case.

According to the story of the killing brought to the office of the Governor, the crime was a most atrocious one. It was related to the executive that the negro was handcuffed and in the custody of the deputy when he was killed.

THE JUNGLE IN ATLANTA.

In his recent charge at Forsyth to the grand jury of Monroe county Judge Robert T. Daniel declared that any city which, like Atlanta, held a record of fifty-five homicides within one year, admitted itself to be semi-civilized. The figures are there and cannot be disputed. And to make it worse, the current year bids fair to overtop its predecessor. Already six homicides are of record. At that rate, 1913 will establish a new mark locally from the standpoint of murder. *Atlanta Constitution*

Judge Daniel attributed a large part of this outlawry to early deficiencies in the training of children. He supported this assertion with comparisons between Atlanta and Winnipeg, Canada. He had visited the annual conventions of the same organization in the American and the Canadian cities, he said, and the manner in which public order was maintained in Winnipeg and authority flouted in Atlanta he believes to be indicative of the viewpoints of the two peoples. From infancy, he says, Canadians are taught to respect law and its symbols. As much cannot be said for America.

The judge's premises are, we believe, only partially accurate. Had he gone farther and said that infractions of the law are quickly and surely punished in Canada as in England, he would have revealed the reason for the adverse contrast between the two nations. People are apt to respect authority where authority demands respect and shows itself capable of exacting it. In this country, the courts grind slowly and often ineffectually. It is, therefore, not needful to look far to discover why Canadians are quick to obey laws and Americans more le'surely.

All of this does not, however, excuse the crime record with which Judge Daniel indicts Atlanta. It is referable, so far as the murder rate is concerned, to the pistol-toting habit which Judge Daniel has himself often and vigorously excoriated. It is only in the jungle that there can be found such tolerance of lawlessness as is comprised in Georgia's leniency with the pistol-toter. The man found guilty of carrying concealed weapons is little superior, from the moral standpoint, to the jungle inhabitant. He should be treated as such. Even Ohio, which does not possess the pretext of a large negro population, has enacted a law withdrawing the alternative of a fine from the pistol-packer. Atlanta and Georgia could emerge from the jungle if they followed suit, then enforced the law without let or discrimination.

A NICKLE VS. A BOY.

Georgia's supreme court last week handed down a decision which demonstrates the cruel and blundering inefficiency of state statutes. Three years ago a ten-year-old boy pleaded guilty to stealing a bottle of soda water. He was forthwith sentenced to the reformatory until he should have attained the age of twenty-one years. His father carried the case through all the courts, to no avail. The supreme court has just decided that under the reformatory laws there is no relief for this youngster until he has served out his sentence or been released on parole. *Constitution 3-23-13*

In other words, for the theft of a five-cent bottle of soda, committed undoubtedly in a moment of impulse that may never recur, some of the brightest and best years of this lad's life are to be sacrificed to the law. He is to be treated, in reality, as a common felon who may have set fire to a house or burglarized a bank. Young and impressionable, he is to be confined to an industrial farm and there spend all his youth and young manhood in penance for a passing mood of a moment. Reformatories for juveniles are, of course, excellent institutions. It is infinitely better to send the boy there than to throw him into contact with hardened and professional law-breakers.

But where is the reason or profit in putting him there at all? Why should not probation begin immediately with his admission of guilt? It is not in evidence that he has given signs of incorrigibility. Every law of probability is that under the watchful care of a father and in association with honest boys of his age, the thoughtless prank of a moment would be forgotten and he would turn out a law-abiding, upright citizen. But the law, well-intentioned but unintelligent, demands its pound of flesh. He must drudge through many years, conscious always of surveillance and suspicion, denied the opportunities and the pleasures

that are youth's birthhood, and carry with him to the grave the inevitable stigma of having been sentenced to a penal institution.

This is slow-witted inhumanity with a vengeance. The statutes need revision, broadening. Do they best serve society as they stand, or would not their objective be better achieved by giving this, and other youthful offenders, at least a chance to demonstrate repentance and a right to untarnished citizenship? As a correspondent elsewhere suggests, the case is eminently one for the investigation and possible pardoning power of the governor.

RIGID INQUIRY IN PRISON HORROR ASKED

The N.Y.A.
9-18-13
Negroes Throughout the Country Shocked at Texas Prison Tragedy—Surviving Convicts Tell of Long Death Struggle in Dark, Close Dungeon for Air and Water—Guards Refused to Give Aid.

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.

HOUSTON, Tex., Sept. 16.—From every section of the United States the authorities here are receiving communications from Negroes urging that those responsible for the prison farm horror, in which eight colored prisoners were smothered to death and died in convulsions, be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. That someone must be held responsible for such a tragedy is the prevailing sentiment.

Ollie Brown, John Douglas, James Curtis and Edgar Evans, the four prisoners living to give hair-raising accounts of their experience, will be valuable witnesses for the prosecution.

Jim Curtis, one of the men who outlived the horror, tells of how he held his lips against the tiny crack under the door that let in just enough air to keep him alive. Curtis says that Carlton Vance, seventeen years old, one of the victims, had a fit and began biting his foot; that he called for help, but the authorities paid no attention to his cries. Finally became quiet and Curtis pried the boy's teeth off his foot. Then Curtis discovered that young Vance was dead. At the time, however, he did not know that any of the other prisoners had met death from suffocation.

Inhaled Air From Small Holes.

Ollie Brown, of Dallas, saved his life by getting air from one of the tiny holes in the back of the cell. He put his head against the wall and pressed his mouth and nose against the hole where he lay all night.

John Douglas, of San Antonio, although he survived, says he had been in chains for two days; that he was chained so high his feet were on their tip-toes. According to Douglass, four of the other prisoners had been in chains; that the only water received was thrust in the cell in a small bucket for all the prisoners hours before some died from lack of air and water.

Edgar Evans, of Jefferson, tells the following tale:

"They gave us water at 3 o'clock and when we begged the guard to give us more he said he was not going to do it. At night one of the boys was having a fit and kept yelling for the boss to turn him out, but the boss would not make him any answer. We told him

they were dying. He said if we did not let down on our noise we would stay in there a month. When Bug Juice (Carlton Vance) bit Jim Curtis we told him a boy was dead, and he said we would all of us wish we were dead before we got out."

County Attorney Gives Version.

B. H. Carroll, the Fort Bend County attorney, in describing the facts as he found them, upon personal investigation, gives the following account:

"The following may be said to be the ascertained facts: Out of the dark cell in the convict bunk house at Harlem Farm No. 3 there were taken on Sunday morning, September 7, about 5.30 o'clock, four living men and eight dead bodies, all the living and dead being young Negroes convicted of felonies and serving short terms in the penitentiary.

"All of the dead men and two of the living had been in the dark cell since noon of Saturday and the others had been there since 6 o'clock Saturday evening.

"Water had been given to the men in the cell at 3 o'clock on Saturday and at 6 o'clock and at 8 o'clock. Within half an hour after the last water in a little baking powder bucket had been given to the men they were screaming for more water, which was not given to them, and the doors of the cell were not opened between 8 o'clock Saturday evening and about 5.30 Sunday morning.

"At 9.30 o'clock Saturday evening one of the Negroes, Clarence Vance, went into the convulsions that preceded death by asphyxiation from lack of oxygen, and in his dying convulsions bit Jim Curtis, another of the Negroes.

"I. M. Fain, who was on guard from 6 o'clock until midnight, was repeatedly told that a man was dying and later that he was dead inside that cell. Every scream, every call and almost every word that was uttered in that death hole could be heard by Fain and could also be heard by the seventy-five Negroes in the bunk house.

"Toward midnight the struggles, the fighting and the screams died down, because, it is probable, eight of the men were dead by that time and the rest were unconscious or almost so from carbonic acid gas poisoning. Dr. O'Farrell, the county physician of Fort Bend County, who examined the bodies when they were taken out, said that all of the men probably died before midnight, and that all of them probably died in convulsions, with the dark, unoxxygenated blood gushing from their mouths and nostrils and forming foamy, bubbly pools upon the floor, where it quickly decomposed."

EIGHT NEGROES DIE OF

SUFFOCATION IN CELL

Only Three Small Air Holes

Available, One of Four Survivors Seeks Floor Crack.

9-9-13

RICHMOND, Tex., Sept. 8.—Gov. Colquitt of this State, the Attorney-General and the local police have to-day begun an investigation into what is pictured as one of the worst prison horrors of modern times, the allegation being made that twelve negroes were jammed into an underground cell at the State prison farm building, known as Camp No. 3. The cell, ten feet long, seven feet wide and seven feet high, with metal walls and ceilings, had in it only four airholes, each the size of a quarter, and one of them was stopped up.

Eight of the twelve thus imprisoned in this foul hole died of suffocation in the night. There was a deadly fight between the cramped and imprisoned men for vantage of placing their lips to the air holes. Those who were conquered died. One of the four survivors found scant breath of life by discovering a crack in the flooring, and with vivid lips succeeded in sucking sufficient dank air into his lungs to keep him alive.

The four survivors told Police Justice Fenn and the State Prison Commissioners to-day that until they grew so faint they had persistently yelled to the guards:

"Men are dying in here!"

They swore the only reply they got was:

"You'll all wish you were dead if you don't make less noise."

In the end they were silent—eight of them dead; the others too weak to cry out or even moan. The survivors were only semi-conscious when rescued.

Justice Fenn made a personal examination to-day. It served to expose the underground cell where the men had been confined more terribly than had been admitted. For it had been declared that there were ten air holes, but Justice Fenn said his examination disclosed but four, and that one of these was stopped up so fast that a man could not have pried it open with his hands.

The negroes say that this frightful punishment was meted out to them merely because they were charged with being lazy in their work in the cotton fields.

Three guards have been arrested charged with responsibility for the barbarous tragedy, and their hearings are set for to-morrow.

FULTON CONVICTS, IF THEY ARE GOOD, MAY LOSE STRIPES

Constitution 12-14-13

Despite objections on the part of Captain Tom Donaldson, the county commissioners on Saturday passed a resolution which gives to a "merit" man in the county changing a chance to lose his "stripes."

Neat suits of brown and gray will be worn by prisoners who have passed a certain period without demerit points against them. The rest of the convicts will be dressed in the usual zebra-like clothing.

The reform was urged some time ago by the prison association of the state, and the action of the county commissioners follows that suggestion.

In this age of race antagonism, when the lot of our people is extremely hard at times, it is indeed gratifying to note that now and then there rises above the smoke and din raised by the Negro hating contingency of our land, the voice of some God-fearing, Christian hearted individual who believes in justice and fair play to all without regard to race or color. Such individuals are the doctrinaires of a square deal to all. The policy of keeping some men up and some men down, does not appeal to them. To them mankind is a brotherhood. To note that such individuals are now to be found in nearly every part of our country is indeed gratifying and assuring. Even in our own southland where race prejudice and race antagonism is thought to be at its greatest, such friends of justice and fair play and equality before the law are now to be found in rapidly increasing numbers. This is indeed a pleasing sign of the times and augurs the coming of a better day for the Negro, not only throughout the north but throughout Dixie as well. What can better illustrate the truth of the foregoing than the recent trial and its outcome of Columbus Holcombe, a Negro, who was charged with the killing of T. B. Austin and Ernest Chancey, two white men of Tampa, Fla. The grand jury that exonerated Holcombe took the ground that he was justified in defending his home against attack by the men who were afterwards killed. To know that there are white men in the south who have the courage to give justice to the Negro even when he is charged with a serious crime against a member or members of their own race, is indeed assuring in this day when there is open assertion in certain quarters that there is no equality before the law when it is applied to a case in which a Negro and a white man are involved. Thanks to these courageous and

consecrated men, the ends of justice are beginning to be served more and more each day with respect to our people. This is as it should be. Meanwhile it is hoped that our people will leave no stone unturned that promises to lend good cheer and encouragement and a consciousness of work being

done for a worthy cause to these stalwart men and women of the north and other parts of our country who are seeing to it that a deal be given to us.

FEWER ARRESTS.
Mayor Woodward and the board of police commissioners are to be commended for their action looking toward the minimizing of arrests in Atlanta. If council follows the recent recommendation of the board it will grow money for the establishment of the office of inspector, whose station will be at police headquarters and whose duties will be to investigate individual cases and, incidentally, to keep a watchful eye on the efficiency of policemen.

Philip Weltner, secretary of the Prison Association of Georgia, is responsible for much of the sentiment looking toward this reform. It is true that for a long time the more thoughtful people of Atlanta have realized that arrests have been too many, but it remained for Mr. Weltner to focalize sentiment by his investigations and his strong presentation of the case.

He shows, as a fair illustration, that police court fines in Atlanta one year totalled \$80,000. In New York, a city of five million population and eleven police courts, fines in the similar jurisdiction totalled only \$120,000.

This means, of course, just one thing, and that is that we are given here to prosecution and fine for trivial offenses, thereby in the long run defeating the fundamental purpose of the law. Mr. Weltner showed also that the money thus gained to the city, contrary from being "revenue," was, in a very real sense, an ultimate drain. For the class upon whom the fining system falls most heavily is the poorer class, and their fining or imprisonment means their families or those dependent upon them must be thrown upon the charity of the city or private individuals.

Mayor Woodward expressed the matter accurately, when he said that a policeman's ability was gauged not by the number of arrests he made, as so many scalps dangling from his belt, but by the capacity to maintain order on his beat with the fewest number of arrests.

For the system that is the product of years' growth, no one official is responsible. Blame rests in the last analysis upon the viewpoint. That must be corrected before definite progress can be made toward approximating the methods of wiser cities.

Let us by all means have the inspector stationed at police barracks. His constructive activities will, within a month or two, more than cover his upkeep. He will be one more factor in what should be a constant striving to lift our penal system from the taint of being a creator of malefactors.

Constitution
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER
11-18-13

ATLANTA KEEPING THE PEACE—NO. II.

By PHILIP WELTNER.
Secretary Prison Association of Georgia.

One hundred and seventy-six thousand, seven hundred and fifty-three dollars and thirty-six cents—this is the total in 1912 from the miserable characters appearing in Atlanta's police court. Eighty-three thousand, two hundred and ninety-eight dollars and thirty cents is the total fines, exclusive of court costs, paid into the city treasury. A slight comparison is worth making:

	Population	Arrests	Fines
	1912.	1912.	1912.
Providence . . .	236,000	11,102	\$15,735.00
Detroit	567,994	26,861	30,952.00
Atlanta	159,869	17,139	83,298.30

Providence, R. I., is half again as large as Atlanta. Detroit is three and a half times size of Atlanta. Providence has one arrest to twenty-one persons. Detroit has the same. Atlanta has more than one to ten. The combined population of Providence and Detroit exceed Atlanta's by 644,125. Their combined arrests exceed Atlanta's by 20,824. But their aggregate fines fall short of Atlanta's by \$36,611.30.

The above table is not more extended, because in most cities the authorities consider a review of the work of the recorder's courts as irrelevant to a review of their own. Quite the opposite is true in Atlanta. On page 32, 1912 Atlanta police report, eight items are set in parallel columns to show at a glance the work of the department, year by year. One of the items is the money returns of the police court; another is the appropriations made for maintenance of the department. That the former should weigh at all in the work of the department is significant enough, but that it should be set beside the annual appropriation is even more so.

It raises this question: Are fines levied with a view of punishing offenders, or to defray the cost of the police department? It seems to be pretty generally accepted that the more money the city can squeeze out of indigent offenders in the police court, the less money the department costs and the greater is its efficiency. Both propositions, aside from being absurd, are alarming. City

Warden Evans, in 1912, spent for fuel, food and clothing \$5,480.77. This came out of the city treasury, the same treasury into which went \$83,298.30 in fines. The Associated Charities, in 1912, spent \$8,320.04 for fuel, food and clothing. This came out of the pockets of those disposed to relieve cheerless, suffering humanity. City Warden Evans testifies that most of the \$5,480.77 went to help those rendered helpless by the city through the police system. J. C. Logan, of the Charities, testifies that a considerable portion of the \$8,320.04 went to the same end. The reason for much of the charity bestowed by other organizations and individuals goes back to the same source.

If the city had relieved the suffering it caused innocent people by the 1912 police court fines, it would have paid out through the city warden practically every dollar of the \$80,000 and more it took in.

The Loan Shark.

It is a notorious fact that much of this money did not come out of the earnings of the persons fined. It came out of some one else's earnings. Lots of it came from the coffers of the loan shark to be paid back in somebody else's sweat. Fines, that do not come out of the pockets of persons fined, not only do not punish, but are a grinding imposition on the innocent. If the \$83,298.30 tended to increase poverty and fasten on the necks of the innocent the burdens of the guilty, how can its collection count for efficiency in the suppression of crime? There is no use arguing that no one had to pay but the person fined. If a mother's love did not reach behind prison bars; if a father's concern ended with the prison gate, there would eventually be not enough honest folk left to guard the guilty.

This is not an attack on Recorder Broyles. His hands are tied. But this article is designed to show the folly of present methods, and to inform the public of the utility of an appropriation by the city to meet the expenses of an office of inquiry in connection with the police department. It would fall to the work of this office summarily to dismiss frivolous cases or apply a warning, where that would suffice; to investigate cases sufficiently to advise the recorder, whether it might not be better, if a fine is imposed, to allow the person fined to pay it out of his own earnings in installments; to collect these installments; to organize and maintain a city-wide employment bureau for the unskilled; to follow up persons convicted of idling and loitering, seeing that they get work and keep it. This advance step in police administration has the confidence of the chief of police. It is done in other cities and done successfully. The recorder has on several occasions recommended the adoption of substantially this method of dealing with city offenders to supplement the work of his court.

TWO DETECTIVES

ARE SUSPENDED

Meyer and Buddemeyer to be
Tried for Neglect of Duty
in Jeter Case

NEWBERGER ACTS

Third Deputy Police Commissioner Relieves Detectives of
Shields and Suspends Them
Without Pay.

TO EXTRADITE ZITZ FRIDAY

John Koshoe Is Still At Large—Commanding Officers of Kingsbridge Precinct to be Questioned.

After hearing the testimony of Henry A. Jeter, his wife, son, Sinclair, and his daughters, the Misses Louise and Vinetta, Third Deputy Police Commissioner Newberger Monday afternoon suspended without pay and held for trial Detectives Herman Meyer and Frederick Buddemeyer on charges of dereliction and neglect of duty in failing to take steps to apprehend Joe Zitz and John Koshoe, charged with assault and rape on the person of little 14-year-old Elizabeth Maceo Jeter of 3140 Heath street, Kingsbridge.

The outrage was committed Thursday evening, November 6, about 6:30 o'clock, and although the police authorities were notified before 8 o'clock the same evening and detectives assigned to the case, no effort was made to arrest the two men charged with the atrocious crime, even though the child gave a positive and definite statement as to their identities.

In the examination before Commissioner Newberger it was brought out that the family made a strong effort to secure action by the police, but to no avail. They could not get the officers to make an arrest nor could they persuade the officials of the Morrisania Police Court to issue a warrant. The warrant was not secured until the services of Counselor John William Smith had been secured, who had to fight two days for it. In the meantime the men charged with the crime had left the police jurisdiction and could not be found.

Meyer Showed Little Interest in Case.

Zitz and Koshoe were finally located in Camden, N. J., and this information came into the possession of the Kingsbridge police. Notwithstanding this, De-

tective Meyer made no effort to secure the arrest of either of the men. Seeing their attitude and realizing that they could not be depended on, Mr. Jeter, the girl's father, put his son on the train and sent him to Camden. Young Jeter went to that city and, securing the aid of the Camden police, went to the locality where the men were supposed to be and found Zitz, who was arrested and put into jail in Camden. The case was then taken to the office of the District Attorney, and, as told in last week's AGE, Zitz and Koshoe were indicted by the Grand Jury for criminal assault. Immediate application was made for extradition papers. Zitz will probably be brought to New York on Friday of this week. Koshoe is still at large, having succeeded in eluding the officers, as was told last week in The Age.

The two officers accused of neglect of duty, Meyer and Buddemeyer, made statements before Commissioner Newberger in an effort to justify their lack of action. Buddemeyer made the plea that he was assigned to a murder case and it was important that he should secure a statement from the man who was shot before he died. Commissioner Newberger asked him if it took from Thursday night, when the child was outraged, until Sunday morning, when the two accused men left the vicinity of Kingsbridge, to secure the dying man's statement. He asked also if this was not an important case. Buddemeyer's answers were not satisfactory. Meyer was no more able to give a satisfactory explanation to the Commissioner. So with little ado the shields of both detectives were stripped from their coats and they were ordered suspended without pay. Charges will be preferred against them and in due time they will be tried by Commissioner Newberger for neglect of duty in this case.

Newberger Scores Subordinates.

Commissioner Newberger expressed the opinion concerning the case that it was the worst case of neglect of duty on part of the police force he had come in contact with. It is probable that the commanding officers of the Kingsbridge Precinct will be called on for an explanation, as it is thought that the inaction of the subordinate officers was due to the failure of their superior officers to give proper attention to the case.

Counselor Smith, in speaking of the case, said that the publication of the story of the assault for the first time in THE AGE started the publicity which secured for the Jeter family the support of the community in the effort to secure action in the case. He said that the examination and suspension of the detectives was due largely to the letter written to Commissioner Waldo concerning the lack of action on part of the police and the publicity given the matter through the news columns of The Age.

Elizabeth Jeter is still under the doctor's care.

The frequency with which crime waves are appearing in many of our Southern States ought to be a cause of much alarm among us. Within the past few weeks, no less than half a dozen of our Southern States have had their escutcheon stained with the blood of their sons as a result of a brief reign of terror and mob violence within their borders. The State authorities of these commonwealths have looked on in apparent helplessness while this carnage of blood and violence has progressed. Sad indeed is the plight of a state when mob rule has the ascendancy, yet such seems to be the condition that surrounds us now and threatens to do so permanently. It is indeed not difficult to find the cause for such frequent exhibitions of lawlessness among us. Whenever a lynching takes place, the participants of which are allowed to go unpunished, then and there do we find scattered among us a band of assassins and murderers whose barbarous instincts impel them on to other deeds of violence and destruction. Today many of our Southern States are reeking in deeds of outlawry perpetrated by a few of its inhabitants. None the less true is this of our own state than of certain others. To what end this reign of outlawry and terror will be carried is indeed a question uppermost in our minds at the present. If our own Southland, the land of promise, the real Eden of America, ever hopes to come into her own, then she must put her feet hard and fast upon any and every thing that savor in the least of outlawry. In the first place, our state authorities owe it as their first duty to put a stop to lynching. Stringing human beings to trees and riddling their bodies with bullets cannot be tolerated in any country or section that hopes to be civilized or to be regarded as such. Citizens who engage in acts of violence ought not to be allowed to go free of punishment. On the other hand, they should be made to feel the strong hand of the law in a most telling manner. There is indeed a great deal for the authorities of our states to do at the present time in order to check the present triumphant march of Judge Lynch and his

attending band of outlawry. the authorities of the state would stand in the right direction then they would start with the lynchers first. We desire to note the prosperity of the south. In fact, we are a part of it and as such, we have endeavored in our own feeble way to be a constructive force in its development. We long to see the day when in point of wealth, population, resources and all other signs of advance civilization that the section in which we live will be on a par with any other section of our country. However we feel that the true

RECORDER OF MOBILE

ALLEGES INHUMANITY

Eddington Recites Conditions at Atmore Camp That He

Severely Condemns

Mont Ad. 9-23-13

Special to The Advertiser. MOBILE, ALA., Sept. 22—Inhumanity, such as possibly is not recorded outside the Siberian mines, is alleged to have occurred at the Huxford-Orvin Company's convict camp near Atmore in signed affidavits presented before the Revenue and Road Commissioners by Recorder D. H. Eddington at today's session. There were quite a number of people present at the meeting and indignation was plainly seen on the countenances of these following the presentment which resulted in a decision to have the county physician make a further investigation and report back to the Board.

The affidavits are signed by G. E. Glover, arrested here for defrauding by cashing two-bogus checks and now doing time; J. T. Sandiford, now in the county jail, and Will McClellan.

Report of County Physician Marian T. Inge does not bear out the charges in their entirety, but does show that Will Dickson, sent up from Mobile, was whipped, and that Glover, a white man, was also whipped for disobeying the rules. The report says that the investigation was carried on in the presence of one of the wardens, which might have had a tendency to prevent the prisoners from telling their real conditions.

Recorder Eddington said that he had seen several prisoners who had been at the Atmore camp and that they showed such severe punishment that from a humane standpoint he felt it his duty to take up the matter. Some of the returned prisoners, he said, were suffering from terrible sores on their backs and sides.

An affidavit signed by Willie Ruffin, Charles Long and Willie Smith, charged that the prison keepers at Atmore threw pine knots at G. E. Glover,

called him vile names and beat him badly, and that his feet were so badly swollen that he could hardly walk; that he was beaten with the billy end of a strap and that Glover's physician condition was serious.

Sandiford's affidavit charged that he had seen other prisoners beaten at Atmore while a prisoner, but on account of being from Mobile he was not molested. He swears that he saw a negro, known as "Catfish," beaten so badly that he died the next day and was buried near the stockade. He said the beatings were usually given in the morning after 4 o'clock with a long strap nailed to a broad handle; this strap had a slug of lead in it and that as the convicts passed out of the room, after being whipped, they were hit on the head with the lead end. He saw convicts beaten to such an extent that they were unable to sit up to eat their meals and were afraid to tell the inspector or doctors the truth about their treatment and that those who were courageous enough to do so were beaten after the inspector left.

CONVICT ROAD WORKERS

SLEEP CHAINED TOGETHER

Georgian Writes of Conditions in That State, Where Con-

victs Work Roads

Mont Ad. 7-16-13

Convicts working on the roads in Georgia are shackled and chained together at night and felony convicts are worked with misdemeanor convicts, according to a letter received by Governor O'Neal from Philip Weltner, secretary of the Prison League of Georgia. The Georgia man advises the Governor that public exploitation is not so good as private exploitation in the matter of improving convict conditions.

Georgia is now working 6,200 convicts, 400 of these being on the State farm and 5,800 on the roads of the State, according to the letter. During the fiscal year ending May 31, 1913, there were more than 300 escapes reported. The death rate on the roads is about the average.

When the convicts are on the roads they are transported in iron cages and each convict is chained at night when he retires. All are closely guarded. No guard can receive more than \$50 per month and no warden more than \$100 per month, according to the letter.

Much dissatisfaction exists in Georgia over the condition of the convicts that are now working the roads, says Mr. Weltner's letter, and a vigorous campaign is now being waged looking to the removal of the convicts from the roads.

Governor O'Neal wrote to the official recently requesting information concerning convict conditions in Georgia. He asked some questions about sanitary conditions but the Georgia man failed to send the desired information on this subject.

CHRISTMAS IN A PRISON CAMP

Constitution 6-11-13
By PHILIP WELTNER,
Secretary Prison Association of Georgia

Last Christmas day the prison association arranged with the churches in every county seat to have both ministers and laymen visit the convict camps in their counties. Rev. W. S. Branham, of Zebulon, with several of his men, went out to the Pike county camp, bearing



Philip Weltner.

gifts and bringing words of cheer and heartening. They were met at the cellhouse door by a drunken guard, and, after some words, gained admission. It was a great day for the men in stripes. They were made to feel that, though in prison, they were not forsaken. Their gloom was dispelled in the consciousness that there still were those who cared. The silent brooding of the slow-going hours was banished by a new hope and a new trust. This was worth more than the trifling gifts, which, after all, only emphasized the sincerity of those who brought the Christmas message.

The hour of song and prayer soon ended. The new friends prepared to go, but found the door barred. They called through the grating to the guard to let them out. His reply was a curse and a sneering laugh. The "damn fools" could stay there. Finally one of the party, who had remained on the outside during the services, after a fight with the guard, took an ax, and, breaking open the door, forced a way out for his friends.

Such was the treatment accorded the hundred and six homicides took place in this prison guard anyone who felt drawn toward fallen humanity was a "damn fool." He never could understand the worth of human sympathy in lifting men above low standards. "Forgive them, for they know not what they do," might well be repeated for "this man whom Georgia placed over the lives of her convicts. Such men as this guard fail to see that brutality in turn brutalizes, and that hatred is the shortest path to self-destruction.

As long as Georgia retains the present county system of working convicts, as long as one hundred and twenty counties maintain separate establishments for working and controlling the prisoners of the state just so long will we continue to jeopardize the lives of the man in stripes by putting them under men, some of whom are no whit better than the prisoners they control. What will those in authority have to say when judged by this measure: "As ye have done by the least of these, my brethren, so will do by you?"

PROTEST AGAINST REMOVAL

Age 6-12-13
Women Do Not Take Kindly to Dismissal of Miss Grace Campbell as Probation Officer—Mrs. M. B. Talbert Delivers Address at Meeting Held at Concord Baptist Church.

Renewed interest among club women of Brooklyn was created last week by the president of the Empire State Federation of Women's Clubs, Mrs. M. B. Talbert, of Buffalo, N. Y., who addressed the united clubs at Concord Baptist Church Thursday evening on the various phases of club work. She pictured the duty we owe to our fellow man in a most vivid manner, concluding her remarks by reminding those present that "Whatsoever you soweth, that also shall ye reap." She told of her visit to Aunt Harriet Tubman shortly before her death and of the hallowed influence which still lingers with her.

Mrs. M. J. Stuart, secretary of the federation, emphasized the value and importance of a united effort on the part of women, after which she spoke of the summary dismissal from the Urban League of Miss Grace P. Campbell, the only colored probation officer in Greater New York. The indignation of those present was most pronounced, and by a rising vote the clubs decided to protest against the manner of Miss Campbell's discharge.

Mrs. M. C. Lawton, organizer, spoke briefly on organized womanhood and how it may be strengthened.

Mrs. Alice Wiley-Seay, president of the Dorcas Home and Foreign Missionary Society, presided. At the close of the exercises refreshments were served by the Easter Bell Club, of which Mrs. Fanny Lawrence is president, and a social evening was spent.

JEFFERSON HAD 306

HOMICIDES LAST YEAR

Mont Ad. 7-21-13
Special to The Advertiser.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Jan. 20—Three in Jefferson County during the year 1912, according to statistics compiled by Coroner B. L. Brasher, and made public coincident with his retiring from office today. Mr. Brasher is succeeded by C. L. Spain. The office is now being put on a salary basis.

In the four years of his office there were more than 2,500 deaths of an accidental nature, according to Coroner Brasher's statistics. Many of them, however, resulted from mine accidents.

WANTED FOR KILLING,

NEGRO SURRENDERS

Constitution 7-21-13

Gertie Park, a negro, 27 years of age, wanted by the Atlanta police department for shooting and killing another negro here on last Christmas day, surrendered to the Savannah police Thursday night, giving himself up as the murderer, but gave no reasons for his action. Detective Doyle, of the Alabama force, brought the negro to Atlanta Friday for trial.

MURDEROUS AMERICA

WE DIDN'T MURDER as many people in 1912 as we did in 1911, but the difference is so slight that Mr. F. L. Hoffman, our authority, thinks it "not conclusive evidence of a material improvement." Even the little encouragement our editors glean from a 3.6 per cent. drop in the homicide rate vanishes when they compare our rate with that of Prussia and Italy, and see how much cheaper life is held in American cities than in those of Europe. In Italy, for instance, "where it is generally assumed human life is held more cheaply than in any other country of the world," Mr. Hoffman figures that for the five years ending with 1910 the average homicide rate "was only 3.9 per 100,000 of the population, against an average rate of 5.9 for the registration area of the United States." Or, take the great cities—in London, for example, during 1912, the homicide rate was only 1.31 per 100,000 population; in New York (the old city) it was 6.8. "The available facts are wanting in accuracy and completeness," says Mr. Hoffman in his *Spectator* (New York) article, "but they are sufficient to disclose what is perhaps the most serious defect in the life of the American people at the present time."

The daily press share Mr. Hoffman's alarm. "Why are there more murders in the United States than in other civilized countries?" asks the *Springfield Republican*. Some say "immigration," but "the average rate is highest in Southern cities, where there has been little foreign immigration." The race question may have something to do with this, continues *The Republican*:

"But there is no escaping the fact that in all parts of the United States the homicide rate is much too high for a country in many ways so advanced in civilization. Is it hereditary? Was the continent largely peopled by violent and lawless stock, as some ill-tempered critics have held? Or is it due to laxity in the enforcement of laws?"

In the thirty large American cities which form the basis of Mr. Hoffman's figures the homicide rate per 100,000 population fell "from 8.4 during 1911 to 8.1 during 1912." This was an actual decline of 3.6 per cent. There was a corresponding decline, which the *Chicago Inter Ocean* calls "encouraging," in the suicide rate of 4.1 per cent. According to Mr. Hoffman's table of comparative homicide records of thirty American cities for the year 1912 and for the ten years preceding,

"The city of Memphis experienced not only the highest average homicide rate for the decade ending with 1911, but also for the year 1912. The largest number of deaths from homicide during the decade occurred in the city of Chicago, and the smallest number in the city of Hartford, Conn. The rates for 1912 varied from a maximum of 64.3 per 100,000 of population for Memphis to no homicide for the city of Reading, Pa., and a rate of only 1.4 for the city of Philadelphia. . . .

"The homicide rate during 1912 was highest in the Southern cities, or 20.2 per 100,000 of population, followed by Western cities with a rate of 10.8, by Central cities with a rate of 8.9, and Eastern cities with a rate of 4.6. Comparing the year 1912 with the average for the decade ending with 1911, the homicide rate increased in each of the four groups, and at the rate of 0.9 per 100,000 of population for all cities combined."

What Mr. Hoffman calls the "unenviable homicide record" of Memphis he partially explains by noting that the city is surrounded by prohibition territory and is "the resort of a considerable lawless element." Our readers will also take into account, as bearing on the figures for this and other cities, that their negro population is relatively large. And they will remember that Southern papers, quoted in our article on Mr. Hoffman's figures for 1911, pointed out that in the vast majority of cases the victims were colored people, and that their assailants were generally of the same race. It should be understood, insists a Charleston editor, that the white people of the South "are not given to crimes of violence in larger degree than are their neighbors of the North, the East, or the West." Yet the compiler of figures can make no distinctions, says Mr. Hoffman, for "according to the law the murder of a negro has the same significance as the murder of a white man."

LETTERS TO EDITOR

SENDING DRUGS TO NEGROES.

Editor The Advertiser:—
Reading the account of the tragedy in Harriston, Miss., which caused the death of eight or ten persons, we note the statement that the two negro desperadoes were "drug-crazed." If they were drug-crazed, that fact would largely remove their responsibility.

The trouble lies back of their desperate act. From my conclusions drawn from reports, I would suspect that these negroes were surcharged with cocaine. If so, they purchased this drug somewhere. We are not familiar with the laws of Mississippi and cannot, of course, pass criticism upon them. We would suggest, however, that, if the State has no law restricting the sale of such drugs as cocaine, at the first convening of its General Assembly, it pass drastic laws restricting the sale of such drugs. Any druggist of moral integrity would be willing to abandon the sale of this class of drugs, (except in the filling of prescriptions by reputable physicians.)

If he would not cheerfully do so, he is an enemy to his community, and should be driven out. It is not improbable that some near-by druggist is responsible, morally, for the harvest of death at Harriston. It might be well for Mississippi to enact the laws suggested, or, enforce those it has already. If it has restrictive laws on this one thing, they are evidently ignored.

Georgia, having been in the hands of the reformers at varying intervals for the past few years, very naturally is a State of even justice. On March 5, the Associated Press carried a dispatch from Atlanta which verifies our conclusion that nowhere on earth is justice administered with such rare equity as in Georgia:

An eleven-year sentence for the theft of a 5-cent bottle of soda fountain drink was affirmed here yesterday by the Georgia Supreme Court against Ollie Taylor, 13 years old. The decision ends a three years' struggle by O. F. Taylor, father of the boy, to have the decision set aside.

The lad pleaded guilty three

years ago to stealing the bottle. He was only ten years old then and was sentenced to the Fulton Industrial farm until he was 21 years old. The supreme court made no comment on the sentence, it being held that such a matter rested with the trial judge. In this connection the decision read:

"The slight value of the article stolen is a matter to be given weight by the court imposing the sentence, but it does not nullify the sentence once it is passed properly."

Chief Justice Fish and Justice Atkinson of the court dissented from the majority opinion.

We do not suppose that there is a law on the statute books of our neighboring State which should be repealed or amended, and certainly the law which made it possible for Ollie Taylor, a child, to be sentenced to eleven years' servitude for stealing a nickel's work of soda water, should not be tampered with. Society must be protected. Of course if the kid had killed a policeman or one of his father's neighbors, it would be different—but when retail soda-water dealers have their treasury raided to the extent of a nickel, this being the amount they would have secured for a 2-cent investment, it is different.

No Excuse for "Whipping Post" in Delaware.

The strong article sent out to the nation by Col. W. D. Johnson, formerly editor of the *Kentucky Standard*, pointing out the barbarism and cruelty of the whipping post, as exemplified in the State of Delaware, is attracting serious attention in the highest official and legislative circles, and should, lashing the bare backs of offenders is a relic of the dark ages and is not calculated to improve the condition of society in this modern era. The civilized people of Delaware should rise up and wipe this infamous statute from its books, or Congress should find some way of reaching the evil through a federal law. Colonel Johnson does well to add his virile pen and large personal influence to this worthy cause. There is absolutely no excuse for a whipping post in Delaware or anywhere else in progressive America.

HANGINGS, LEGAL AND OTHERWISE. 3-23-13
Says The Indianapolis News:

Two white men were hanged at Birmingham, Ala., yesterday for the murder of a negro. It is said that the hanging was the first of the kind ever recorded in the county. Coincident with this dispatch from Birmingham, came another from Union City, Tenn., telling of the lynching of a negro. The victim was charged with killing a white man for revenge, but instead of having a regular trial and legal punishment, he was taken from the officials and hanged on a street corner in the presence of one thousand people. Such are the vagaries of men. The negro was no more guilty of another human being's blood than were the two men executed at Birmingham—yet it was lynch law for the one and justice for the others. The South never will be able to solve permanently and satisfactorily the negro crime problem until it substitutes law for mob rule.

The News might at least have given Alabama more credit for hanging two white men for killing a negro. It seems to The Advertiser that this was a good start. We regret that it is still the fashion in some quarters of the South to lynch negroes for specified offenses, the same custom being almost as bad here as it is in most Northern States. The News must remember that heretofore it has been hard to convict a white man for killing a negro, but we are witnessing a change. Coincident with this change, let us hope that there will be a decided decrease in the number of lynchings in the South and North. There wasn't a lynching in Alabama during the year 1912. Governors determined to enforce the law without fear or favor, are bringing lynching into ill-repute in this part of the country.

We commend the same spirit to the consideration of Northern Governors.

JUSTICE WAS BLIND.

There was an absurd lack of merit in the application made to Governor O'Neal for the commutation of the death sentence of two white men, condemned for murder in Jefferson county because their victims were negroes. The people of Alabama will heartily endorse the position of the Governor in saying that the "open season" for shooting negroes in Alabama ended with the beginning of his administration. A murder is a murder, no matter whether the victim has a white skin, a red skin or a black skin.

It is well to remind those people who believe that leniency should be shown a murderer because his victim was black, that the man who shoots a negro inevitably winds up his career with shooting white men. Let the white men of Alabama ponder on this fact for a moment—has not the negro killer, after a time, always appeared in court to defend himself for killing a white man? If there are any white men in Alabama so blind to justice as to excuse a white man for shooting a negro on the grounds of pride of race, they should not be so dense as to ignore the patent fact that when a man satisfies his lust for blood in killing a black man, he gravitates naturally to being the slayer of white men.

The two men in question lived in a section of Jefferson county in which murder had literally become a profession. In Lewisburg Beat in that county it was proved that a man could support himself by the trade of murder, and that for some years he could practice that profession in comparative safety. Some of the victims, in fact most of the victims, were white men, but some of them were negroes. Blind justice, when the murderers were brought to trial, could not see the color of their skin, nor could blind justice see the color of the skin of the men whom they had slain.

**EIGHT NEGRO CONVICTS
SMOTHERED TO DEATH**
Mont. Adv. 9-8-13
Three Survivors Say They Crawled Close to Air Holes in Corners.

RICHMOND, TEXAS, Sept. 7—Eight negro convicts, confined in the "dark" cell of Camp No. 3 on the State farm at Harlem, near here, were smothered to death last night, and four others are seriously ill from the effects of breathing poisoned air but will recover.

Negligent homicide was formally charged against Sergeant Sid Wheeler and two guards, following a coroner's investigation. The men gave bond.

The "dark" cell on the farm has been a means of discipline since whipping was abolished, and the negroes were confined there for infraction of the rules. The cell is of wood construction about ten feet long seven feet wide and seven feet high. Ventilation is supplied by ten air holes, each one inch in diameter.

Three survivors of the night in the cell say that they crawled close to the air holes in the corners, while the fourth breathed through the cracks in the door.

**POLICE MAKE 511 ARRESTS
IN JANUARY; LEADS 1912**
Mont. Adv. 2-5-13
Night Officers Docket Most Cases—Curtis in First.

More arrests were made by the police department during the month of January, 1913, than during the same month of 1912, as shown by the report just issued for the first month of this year. Total cases docketed this month were 511, against 441 cases for the same month last year.

This report shows, too, that more arrests are made by the night force than by the day force, as the night force made 192 1-2 cases against the day force's 171. The detectives made 147 1-2 arrests during the month.

Pettus leads the night force in the number of arrests, having 21 1-2, and he is closely pushed for these honors by Barnett, who made 21. McRee made only one arrest during the month.

Of the day force Curtis made the most arrests, 26 1-2, while Coker is a close second with 26. McDade and Moseley each have 3 1-2.

Of the detective force Rhody carried off the honors for having made the most arrests, with 29 1-2 to his credit. Watts and Cloud are tied for the booby prize with 12 each.

The large number of arrests made during the month of January comes as a surprise to the police department. Sergeant Williamson is the authority for the statement that January has always been considered a quiet month in police circles.

The question will arise in many peoples minds as to how an officer can make half of an arrest. This is explained by the fact that when two officers make one arrest, each is credited with one-half.

BLINDNESS AND INSANITY

ATTRIBUTED TO WHIPPING

Mont. Adv. 5-4-13

Governor Will Investigate Alleged Treatment of Negro in Convict Camp

Governor O'Neal and Dr. W. H. Oates will investigate charges that Thomas Rops, a 19-year-old negro boy, was rendered blind and insane by whippings at the hands of officials of the Huxford and Orrvin Naval Stores camp near Atmore. In case it is found that the officials are guilty, it is expected that prosecutions will be brought.

Convicted in Mobile County, the negro was sent to the camp, where, it is said, he was injured by the cruel lashings received. It is said the negro boy was in good health when he was sent to the camp, but he is now an inmate of the negro asylum at Mount Vernon.

A few weeks ago a white deputy sheriff shot a handcuffed Negro to death and sought to justify himself by saying "I shot the Negro in self-defense." Governor O'Neal became interested in the matter and employed special counsel to assist in prosecuting the white sheriff.

He was indicted for murder and tried. During the trial the Negro's body was taken from the grave and examined. It was found that he was shot twice. The jury found the man "not guilty" of murder and he was turned loose. As shameful as this incident may seem, it is only one of many that occur in Christian Alabama in the course of a year. This deed was committed in Elmore County and the trial took place in Prattville. It is an awful disgrace upon the better class of white people of Prattville and a black spot upon the name of Elmore County.

CONVICTS AND GOOD ROADS.

Why Georgia was shut out from appropriations toward the construction of good roads made recently by congress is told plainly in another column by our Washington correspondent. It appears that during his administration President Roosevelt issued an order prohibiting the use of convicts on any federal work. His sole idea was, of course, to prevent convict labor from coming into competition with free labor. But since Georgia could only supply convicts as her part of the partnership, she was technically barred.

The competitive objection cannot remotely apply to the building of roads. Georgia put her convicts on the highways, for one thing, to break up their competition with free labor. There is, therefore, no logic in penalizing the state's highway aspirations because of a policy which is in itself benevolent.

It appears that a simple executive order from President Wilson will modify the original Roosevelt order, and make it lawful to use convicts as part of the quota of the states when they work at building highways in co-operation with the federal government. Representatives from Georgia should lose no time in asking Mr. Wilson to rescind the act of Mr. Roosevelt, who could not then, of course, have known the way in which his policy would work wrongly to the detriment of highway construction.

Should Georgia supply her co-operative quota in convict labor she would, really, give twice as much as the states who merely comply with cash appropriations. First, the use of convicts would furnish the cash equivalent required; second, it would represent a large cash equivalent taken from the coffers of the state, since if

these convicts had been leased out, as formerly, they would have brought to Georgia many times their valuation in road work. It is, then, at a money sacrifice that Georgia put her convicts on the public highways

a sacrifice of which the nation no less than the state would get the benefit in any co-operative labor.

The president should at once remove Georgia's disabilities. It is too late for the state to share in the present appropriations. But she should be speedily put beyond danger of handicap in the appropriations to come.

THE GEORGIA SYSTEM UNDER

Mont. Adv. FIRE. 5-13-13
An attack on the prison penal system of Georgia, as aggressive as that which has been made on the penal system of Alabama, is indicated by recent letters and speeches from prison and sociological workers in Georgia. Georgia, it is to be understood, works all its convicts, State and county, on the public roads. In each of the one hundred and twenty counties of the State there is a camp of convicts. A large school of Alabama reformers would have the present system in this State supplanted by the one in Georgia.

The prime argument for the change is humanitarian—an excellent argument if it is sound. The Advertiser has pointed out that Alabama convicts are now worked by men selected by the State and counties, and that under the proposed system they would be worked by the same men, or men selected in the same manner. Philip Weltner, secretary of the Prison Association of Atlanta, in a letter in The Atlanta Constitution of Sunday, bitterly assails the present system in Georgia and the men who are selected as guards and wardens, Mr. Weltner concludes his letter with this strong paragraph:

As long as Georgia retains the present county system of working convicts, as long as one hundred and twenty counties maintain separate establishments for working and controlling the prisoners of the State, just so long will we continue to jeopardize the lives of the man in stripes by putting them under men, some of whom are no whit better than the prisoners they control. What will those in authority have to say when judged by this measure: "As ye have done by the least of these, my brethren, so will I do by you?"

The letter recounts the adventure of a party of ministers and church workers who on last Christmas day went to a convict camp to hold religious service and to bestow gifts on the convicts. They were greeted by a drunkard who called them "Damn fools," and who reluctantly let them

into the stockade. Once inside, the ministers and the church workers were locked with the prisoners and informed that they would have to spend the night. They were only rescued after a member of the party, who had not gone inside the stockade, had overcome the guard and had broken down the door of the stockade with an axe.

We present Mr. Weltner's letter as evidence of the Georgia system, which Alabama is being urged to adopt. It is quoted from to throw light on the "humanitarianism" of the Georgia plan; we are not now discussing the financial side of the Georgia system, but which will necessarily be a matter for study and consideration when the change is proposed in the Alabama Legislature. In Alabama, if we tear down the present system, we must be prepared with a new one. The advocates of tearing down must be equipped with a program for construction.

NEGROES ARE LASHED

AT THE WHIPPING POST
Constitution 11-16-13

Wilmington, Del., November 15.—William Reason and James Byard, two young negroes who were convicted of breaking and entering two houses with the intent to commit larceny, were whipped with twenty lashes each at the whipping post of the Newcastle county workhouse today. They had been sentenced to forty lashes, and received twenty last Saturday.

The agitation in congress over the cases of these two men attracted attention to today's whipping, and the attendance of spectators was unusually large. Reason was led out and the twenty lashes applied to his back by Warden Crawford, after which Byard received his second installment. The two men scarcely flinched as the "rat" was applied to their bare backs.

Warden Crawford told inquirers he had never seen blood drawn since the whipping post had been established at the workhouse. Several of the witnesses said they approved of a whipping such as they had just seen, as it inflicted no physical injury, and a mental reminder of punishment might prove more effective to some criminals.

SOWING AND REAPING IN GEORGIA.

No one can read the Georgia dailies without being made aware of the fact that a better way of giving the white people of Georgia is sweeping that State. Nearly every day some horrible murder of white people by white people or some case of rape and murder is charged against white people.

Surely Georgia is reaping what she has been sowing for years, under the leadership of Hoke Smith, Joe Brown and others of that type.

Prison System of Georgia Attacked by Episcopalians

7-20-13

The Episcopal diocese of Georgia, at its annual convention, appointed a social service commission, which has since met and formulated the following special report on prison and child labor conditions in this state:

"Resolved, That the prison system of the state of Georgia, and the methods of punishment now in use and as commonly administered, are unworthy of an enlightened and progressive state.

"Resolved, That we hereby indorse the splendid efforts of the Prison Reform association of this state, and offer to them our hearty co-operation in securing needed reforms.

"Resolved, That we send copies of these resolutions to as many members of our legislature as possible, and urge them to support those bills now pending which bear on the subject of prison reform in the state of Georgia and which are advocated by the prison association.

"Resolved, That we also urge upon our representatives their support of the child labor bill, advocated and indorsed by the National Child Labor association."

Copies of these resolutions are being mailed to the legislators, and many of them have already expressed themselves strongly in favor of the measures reerred to. The three general prison reform measures have already been recommended for passage by the house committee. They are the bill to legalize the suspension of sentence and appoint probation officers; the bill to establish a home for wayward girls; the bill providing for jail inspections and enlarging the powers and responsibilities of the prison commission.

The chairman of the commission which formulated the above report is Rev. G. S. Whitney, of Augusta. The commission is authorized to represent the Episcopal church in the southeastern section of the state in all efforts for social betterment. It represents some 5,000 communicants or about 7,500 baptized members of the Episcopal church residing in the southeastern half of the state of Georgia.

Colonel G. A. Gordon and Miss Helen Pendleton, of Savannah, are among the prominent members of the commission.

EXTRACTS FROM THE ADDRESS OF WALLACE'S PLANS John H. Wallace, Jr., before the Alabama Good Roads Association at Mobile, November 21, 1913. Mr. Wallace spoke in part as follows:

"I propose that the convicts of this State shall be taken from the mines and lumber camps and put to work constructing good roads. The State has no right to sentence a criminal except for the protection of society and for the correction of the individual. The State has no right to require a convict to go down into coal mines which are dangerous places, liable to explosions, where he would not go voluntarily. * * *

"Under the present plan of leasing convicts, a man comes out of the mines and lumber camps a confirmed criminal instead of being made, by his term of confinement, a better citizen. * * *

"Farm labor, which is indeed a great problem, is becoming annually scarcer because negroes, sentenced to the mines, seldom return to the farms, but join the criminal class in Birmingham and vicinity and rarely return to the county in which they were convicted, except to move their families away.

"I propose that the convicts shall be taken out of the mines and lumber camps by degrees, covering a period of at least four years. I advocate that each county shall be required to work its own convicts on its own roads, and that the State shall furnish to the county, working convicts, its proportionate share of State convicts, according to population. * * *

"The class of convicts to be worked on the roads should consist only of male individuals, physically sound and equipped for manual labor; that class of convicts not equipped for hard manual labor and as many more as are necessary to be retained by the State to operate the cotton mill at Speigner and to work the State's farm. * * *

"Of course in the proportion that the convicts of the State are taken from the mines and lumber camps and employed in building good roads the appropriation for State aid in good road building must necessarily decrease."

MANY ILLEGAL ARRESTS.
Special to THE NEW YORK AGE. 2-2
ATLANTA, GA., Feb. 25.—Ten indictments have been returned by the Fulton County Grand Jury to Judge George L. Bell of the Superior Court, upon several charges growing out of recent startling exposures of the illegal arrests of Negroes in this county. The charges were impersonating an officer, making illegal arrests, serving a warrant known to be fraudulent, and extortion. Among those indicted are a lawyer of this city, a former justice court baliff, and a bailiff in the office of the city court solicitor. It is said that the state of affairs revealed to the grand jury indicated convincingly that thousands of dollars have been taken from Negroes in and around Atlanta during the past year or so by illegal arrests. Judge Bell stated that he had no idea who else might be involved, but that the Grand Jury should sift the matter to the very bottom. Th

court, he said, would vary the customary procedure in these cases and that he would require that bonds, as well as securities relating to them, must be approved by him.

THE MISSISSIPPI HORROR.

In the details of that horror in Mississippi in which thirty-five convicts were burned to death in a wooden cage, human sympathy stands appalled. Though every man of them was a criminal, and though the cage contained the desperate criminals at Jackson, the horror of the disaster falls with all its force on a human sympathy that would be kind and generous, even to criminals.

The thirty-five convicts who died the terrible death at Jackson were employed on the Oakley farm, one of the large convict farms of the State of Mississippi. They were housed in a non-descript cage building erected out of the wooden material secured from an old penitentiary building torn down. The building was apart from the other structures in the camp and without any facilities for fighting fire. In this death trap human beings were locked up and chained at night to prevent their escape. To them fire came in the night and they died a terrible death.

In Alabama we have had mine horrors; free men and convicts have died in the mines, but they have never died the terrible death of the thirty-five convicts clinging to the bars and pleading for help as the flames crept upon them. In Alabama, because there have been disasters in which convicts have lost their lives, it has been argued that convicts should be put upon the farms. It is evident that convicts on the farms are no further out of reach of danger than those which are worked in the mines. Mississippi, working its convicts on the farms, has furnished a parallel to Alabama in its convict system, both in graft and in disaster to the convicts.

Atlanta's Wave of Crime Is Easy to Explain: It Is Merely a Case of "The Devil Finding Plenty of Work for Idle Hands to Do"

(By Dan Carey, General Manager of Parks.)

In your issue of June 18, there is an article on the front page, headed "Crime Increases With Hot Weather," which states that "Nine homicides, twenty hold-ups and sixty-five burglaries tell the story of Atlanta's police records since May 1. Sweeping over the city, a crime wave is establishing unsavory history for Atlanta. Never before in police annals have conditions been so disorderly during the summer season. Police officials are unable to account for it."

The reason for this condition in Atlanta is so apparent to me that I seize this opportunity of again directing attention to the fact that Atlanta is not doing her duty in the matter of providing wholesome recreation during the leisure hours of her people. Writers who have been discussing the relation of crime to leisure, students of criminology and thinkers on sociological questions agree with a unanimity which ought to be impressive that there is a direct connection between unwholesome amusement, or lack of amusement, and crime.

Eight Hours of Play.

By common consent the twenty-four hours of each day are divided into eight hours of sleep, eight hours of work and eight hours of play. No one is a menace to his neighbor when he is asleep; his employer hires men to see that he remains at work, but until very recently no effort was made to direct the energy of the man who finds himself with eight hours for recreation. There are two kinds of recreation, good and bad. Recreation that is not good must necessarily be bad and bad recreation becomes a menace. City officials all over the country are recognizing the fact that to properly direct the leisure time of the people is as much a function of government as is the paving of streets or the building of sewers. Atlanta has not done her share of this work and the awful police record you speak of in your issue of June the 18th is a result.

I have recently completed an investigation of the recreational appropriations during 1912 in the cities of the hundred thousand class. The "World Almanac" for 1913 shows that there are twenty-two cities whose population is more than 100,000 and less than 200,000. I addressed letters to the secretaries of the park boards of these

cities requesting that they give me fallacy. If the tax rate is so low that the number of their parks, the acreage, it does not permit Atlanta to exist as the number of playgrounds main-modern cities are operated, then opposes and the appropriations for parks, playgrounds, baths, forestry, conform to the expansion in the government. There was once a time when zoos and the purchase of new land taxes were levied solely for the support of armies and to maintain the officials except Scranton, Pa., Paterson, N. J., and Dayton, Ohio. I find that man was either his own policeman or one of these cities appropriates a watchman; he carried a lantern instead of having his path well lighted by a White Way; he and his neighbor formed a bucket brigade and improvement of parks exclusive-extinguished any fire that might occur. I find that six cities of the nine-there was no system of public education appropriate more than \$1.00 per portion, and governments generally did not assume the responsibilities which are now so firmly rooted that it would be impossible to do away with them. Now comes along public recreation with the demand that it be added to the list of recognized functions of government. In discussing recreation, one must speak necessarily of Chicago, which has set the standard. Chicago has these halls had been closed. They had been discovered that the field house was furnishing a better place to dance, and because it had set up in the minds of these young people new standards of prosperity.

Theory Is a Fallacy.

The theory that Atlanta's tax rate will not permit her to do her duty in the matter of public recreation is a rectly of at least half of the crime, of spent millions on an ideal playground very many industrial accidents, of system, and she has found it a good much of the poverty that robs the next investment. Among the adults, recreation centers have Americanized Chi-efficiency that leads to unemployment cago's immigrants. They have reduced and low standards of living. If we juvenile arrests 28 per cent, and have suppose that an adequate playground increased by 32 per cent the efficiency system would save only 10 per cent of of successfully dealing with children the cost of drink, conservatively estimated to be \$2,000,000,000 a year (I believe it would save 25 per cent), this would still be \$200,000,000 annually, enough to maintain our present system of playgrounds for forty years, or who were seeking wholesome recreation and who lost their lives in the attempt is appalling. The record, of course, deals with 1912, and is confined to the city limits of Atlanta. I discovered that six children, while playing in the streets, had been run down and killed by automobiles; five had their young lives crushed out beneath the wheels of street cars; two were ground to death by railroad trains, four were drowned, three were killed while playing with firearms and one was run over by a train. The total is twenty-one, and of the twenty-one seventeen were white children between the ages of three and seventeen years, while

records in the department of health in Atlanta, and I found that the toll of death among the children of Atlanta who were seeking wholesome recreation and who lost their lives in the attempt is appalling. The record, of course, deals with 1912, and is confined to the city limits of Atlanta. I discovered that six children, while playing in the streets, had been run down and killed by automobiles; five had their young lives crushed out beneath the wheels of street cars; two were ground to death by railroad trains, four were drowned, three were killed while playing with firearms and one was run over by a train. The total is twenty-one, and of the twenty-one seventeen were white children between the ages of three and seventeen years, while

able, while on the other hand, when the negroes are practically all at work crime is reduced to a minimum. If this be true, obviously the record stated in your issue of June 18 is directly attributable to the failure of Atlanta to provide wholesome recreation for the negroes during their leisure hours.

I realize that I am not presenting the popular side of this question when I advocate the expenditure of the public money for the purchase of wholesome recreation for negroes, but I am so deeply impressed with what I know on this subject that I must be heard.

Incidentally, I am writing as a southern-born man, with several generations of southern-born forefathers behind me. I have known the negro all my life and I believe I understand him. I do not dislike the negro, but it is not for him that I am now appealing. Rather, I am appealing in behalf of the young white babies who are dally in the arms of their negro nurses. I am appealing for the safety of the young white girls who are occasionally made the victims of the vicious element among the negroes. I am appealing for the white people who suffer from murder, from burglaries, from stealing, from disease and who are made the innocent victims of this condition that exists among the black race.

The Negro Question.

No matter what phase of sociological work we study, our research leads inevitably to the negro. In criminology, in drunkenness, in crimes of all kinds, in sanitation, in tuberculosis work, in delinquency, in mental defectiveness, in the matter of hereditary disease and in degeneracy, the work of the investigator inevitably leads directly into the homes of the negroes. This is plain talk, but it is true.

We have tried chain gangs on the negro, we have tried jails, we are maintaining hospitals for him, we are operating asylums for him, we are employing skilled policemen and detectives to watch after him and incarcerate him when he has committed a crime, we are spending millions of dollars to punish the negro after he has committed his crimes and after his mind is gone, but we spend not one penny to prevent him from committing the crime, not one penny in corrective or reformatory measures.

We have failed in our previous attempts with the negro. I say the time has come to try something new, and that something new ought to be a thing that has proved of benefit in other sections of the country.

No one can be good until his body is clean. There is not a single public bath in the city of Atlanta for negroes and, as we know, their homes are not provided with bathtubs. In a recent circular proposing an international conference for popular baths and school baths to be held at The Hague is this statement: "Originally the starting point of popular bathing was the promotion of hygiene generally and cultivation of cleanliness; of late years, however, science has taught us that there is no more efficient means to guard against infectious diseases and to prevent their progress than bathing. The researches

into the origin of the plague, recurrent fever and spotted typhus have shown that vermin plays an important part in the spreading of these diseases. Cleanliness is a measure of the highest importance. Localization and disinfection have their value in the struggle against epidemics, but cleanliness is the principal factor."

A short time ago I made an investigation of the cleanliness bath situation in the United States. I did not find all of the public baths naturally, four were negro children between the same ages. I shall not deal further with this phase of the question. It is too awful and harrowing, especially when we think that some of these lives could have been saved had the city been doing its duty in the matter of public recreation.

There is another angle from which this particular phase of the question may be viewed, and that is the effect on those who drive automobiles, who operate street cars and who ride in them and who generally come in contact with such accidents. If substantial posts made of concrete were erected in the middle of the street directly in the path used by automobiles they could be dodged with ease, because the drivers would be on the lookout for them; but to dodge a crowd of children playing in the street is very different. Certainly the nervous strain, the lessened capacity for work, the decrease in the enjoyment of life and the general effect on the nervous system of these people must be tremendous.

Value of Recreation.

In a recent article in "The American City" Dr. Henry S. Curtis said some very impressive things about the value of recreation centers, and among other things he dealt with the effect of these institutions on crime. He said: "If we could stop the production of juvenile delinquents we should probably stop at least 90 per cent of the crime of adults, which costs our country between \$500,000,000 and \$600,000,000 annually. If we may trust the Chicago statistics as to the effect of the playgrounds on juvenile delinquency—and these statistics were very carefully gathered, taking the time of ten investigators for a year—we might expect an adequate and well administered system of playgrounds to prevent or cure about 50 per cent of the juvenile delinquency, and so to save the country about \$250,000,000 annually—a rather tidy sum, which would maintain all the playgrounds in the country for fifty years. But if we suppose the playgrounds would only reduce delinquency and crime by 10 per cent, which is certainly a moderate estimate, this would still amount to more than \$50,000,000, enough to maintain our existing playgrounds for ten years. When we consider also the indirect expense of crime, this estimate is certainly moderate."

The Rival of the Saloon.

"Public recreation is the most effective rival of the saloon that has thus far been discovered. If the city furnished a playground system like the one in Chicago there is always a place to go to until 10 o'clock every night that is physically much more attractive than the saloon. There are beautiful, well-lighted rooms in the field houses where clubs can meet for nothing and where intoxicants can-

not be had. In the restaurant of the building are soft drinks and coffee at cost. If a party of young men wish to give a dance the field house offers a beautiful hall and good music, and it will cost them nothing. If they prefer to have gymnastics or swimming in the evening, the field house furnishes the gymnasium and the swimming pool and the physical director to see that it is worth while. If they wish to have athletics during the day, the playground furnishes the athletic field. The personal standards and touch of the directors influence the boy more or less, and he soon learns that if he would excel in the athletics which are apt to be his greatest interest he must abstain from drink. At the time West park playground No. 2 was opened in Chicago there were four dance halls within one-half mile of the site. All of these were connected with saloons, and all were vicious influences in the community. Within one year all four of

Do not understand me as advocating that all of the recreational work should be done among the negroes, nor do I wish you to understand me as believing that all the recreation work should be done among the poorer classes. On the other hand I maintain that the rich and the children of the rich are as much entitled to the training, both mental and physical, that comes from attending recreation centers as are the children of the poor.

The time must come in Atlanta, as it has come elsewhere, when our people will realize that recreation is as important as any other kind of municipal endeavors. Public recreation is being opposed in its incipency by but I did succeed in listing the records of twelve cities.

Interesting Figures.
The figures are quite interesting and show that a great many cities are literally washing away the sins of their people.

Atlanta is striving for a half million population in 1920. Business and commercial interests are rapidly pushing forward and there is every indication that Atlanta will be the big city of the south that she has always been, every indication but one. Mark my words and remember that the time is coming, and it is going to come in just a few years, when it will be as difficult to sell a piece of real estate in a city that has failed to provide for public recreation as it would be now to sell a home in a city that has failed to provide for public education.

We need not wait for the future, however, to show us what the results of our inactivity. Retribution is already upon us and we find it in "nine homicides, twenty hold-ups and sixty-five burglaries reported since May 1." those who do not use their brains, but all human progress has been unwelcome at its birth. The public school system was made the object of vicious attacks when it first began its operation, but who would dare oppose now the system of public education.

FIGURES WHICH SHOW ATLANTA'S PARK STATUS

CITY.	Population	No. Parks	Acreage	Playgrounds	Appropriation	Parks	Playgrounds	Baths	Forestry	Per Capita	New Land	Per Acre Parks
Columbus, Ohio	181,548	7	236	13	\$399,020.85	\$378,020.85	\$15,000.00		\$ 6,000.00	2.197		\$1,601.78
Toledo, Ohio	168,497	34	883	12	65,830.85	65,830.85				.390		74.42
ATLANTA, GA.	154,839	23	873	12	61,055.24	43,814.46	2,339.61	4,499.00	3,315.39	.282		55.34
Oakland, Cal.	150,174	34	360	15	230,000.00	179,780.58	50,000.00			.151		499.36
Worcester, Mass.	145,986	18	1095	8	64,700.00	36,000.00	22,000.00		650.00	.443		32.81
Syracuse, N. Y.	137,249	60	341	4	72,316.30	47,950.00	8,500.00	10,866.30	5,000.00	.526		140.61
New Haven, Conn.	133,605	26	1037	8	73,637.71	56,637.71	2,400.00	800.00	1,000.00	.551		54.61
Birmingham, Ala.	132,685	19	542		165,521.93	10,999.43				1.172	12,000.00	286.94
Memphis, Tenn.	131,105	15	1220	5	170,836.40	151,222.76				1.303	144,522.50	123.95
Scranton, Pa.	129,867											
Richmond, Va.	127,628	15	646	11	81,596.30	71,596.30	7,500.00	2,500.00		.639		110.48
Paterson, N. J.	125,600											
Omaha, Neb.	124,096	14	925	1	46,590.87	46,590.87				.375		50.36
Fall River, Mass.	119,295	12	119	1	38,673.47	37,459.08	614.39		600.00	.324		314.78
Dayton, Ohio	116,577											
Grand R'ds., Mich.	112,571	18	400	6	80,000.00	63,200.00	8,000.00	1,600.00	3,700.00	.71		158.00
Nashville, Tenn.	110,364	15	400		108,647.46	108,138.97			508.49	.983		270.34
Lowell, Mass.	106,294	30	136	5	13,800.00	12,000.00	1,000.00		800.00	.129		88.22
Cambridge, Mass.	104,839	15	200	12	125,000.00	85,000.00	12,000.00	13,000.00	15,000.00	1.192		425.00
Spokane, Wash.	104,442	25	180	4	701,872.32	204,661.68	23,628.52			2.473.35	471,872.32	1,137.00
Bridgeport, Conn.	102,054	8	250	2	65,000.00	58,000.00	3,000.00	1,000.00	3,000.00	.636		232.00
Albany, N. Y.	100,253	21	517		80,800.00	80,800.00				.805		156.28

CITY.	Population.	Year.	Baths.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Chicago, Ill.	2,185,283	1910	17			1,070,565
St. Louis, Mo.	687,029	1912	2	551,311	210,757	762,068
Cleveland, Ohio	560,663	1912	3			443,430
Baltimore, Md.	558,485	1911	8	643,155	180,513	823,668
Buffalo, N. Y.	423,715	1912	2	152,827	36,203	189,030
Cincinnati, Ohio	564,463	1912	5	192,960	72,600	265,560
Newark, N. J.	347,469	1912	3			252,000
Louisville, Ky.	223,928	1912	3 (W)	53,598	8,257	97,216
			(B)	28,691	6,670	109,500
Syracuse, N. Y.	137,249	1912	1			92,714
Albany, N. Y.	100,253	1910	3	92,714		135,412
Troy, N. Y.	76,813	1911	2	95,196	40,216	75,300
Hoboken, N. J.	70,324	1912	1			

PRATTVILLE DEPUTY TO BE PROSECUTED
Mont. Adv. 10-30-13
Governor O'Neal Employs Special Counsel to Push Case Against Autauga County Officer

Governor O'Neal has employed I. M. Holley, of Wetumpka, as special counsel to assist in the prosecution of W. L. Wells, a deputy sheriff of Autauga county, who has been indicted on a charge of murder and whose trial will begin today at Prattville. Wells is charged with killing George Lewis, a negro, while Lewis was handcuffed in his custody. Information has come to the Governor that the shooting of Lewis was a cowardly one and he instructed Circuit Judge W. W. Pearson to make a thorough investigation of the case. When the matter was placed before the grand jury, an indictment for first degree murder was returned against the deputy. Several weeks ago Wells was tried before a justice of the peace of Autauga county and was granted his freedom. He claimed that he shot the negro in self defense and later relocked the handcuffs on his prisoner.

Attendance of whom live on route number 3 from Deatsville
"Dear Sir:
"I am reliably informed that you have threatened to lynch or to assault George Lewis, colored. My information is that this man is a law abiding colored citizen and this is to notify you that if you make any assault on this man or molest him in any way, all the power of the State of Alabama will be used to secure your arrest and conviction and severe punishment.
"I desire you to understand that under the oath of my office, I will see to it that the laws of Alabama are used for the protection of every citizen. If you have any grievances against this colored man the courts are open to you for redress.
"I shall notify the Solicitor and the Judge of the rumors I hear and put the law officers of your county on guard so that you will be watched, and any infringement on the laws of the State will be punished.
"Respectfully,
Emmet O'Neal, Governor."

Governor O'Neal took the matter up with prominent citizens of Autauga county who informed the executive that George Lewis the dead negro, was the same negro who applied to the Governor early in the spring for protection.
Governor O'Neal stated Wednesday that the negro had applied to him for protection early in the spring because several citizens residing near Deatsville were incensed against him for some cause. After investigating the case and being assured by well known citizens of Autauga county that the negro was a hardworking and industrious man the Governor at once took steps to protect him.
Letters were written by the Governor to J. E. Nelson, Sam Bates, J. D. Lewis and H. C. Campbell on March 29 warning them not to attempt any violence against the negro. The Governor also wrote the Circuit Judge, the solicitor and the sheriff to see that the negro was protected from the men seeking to do him injury. The executive even went so far as to request probate Judge R. L. Faucett of Autauga county to place the men under a peace bond.
Shortly after these letters were written the negro was arrested by Deputy Wells and while he was being taken to the county jail he was slain. His body was found with both his hands still manacled.
Governor O'Neal will make every effort to bring about the conviction of Deputy Sheriff Wells if the facts show that he is guilty of the offense as charged. The Governor re-iterated his statement that he had warned the people of Autauga county that he would not stand for any violence toward the negro and made public the following to substantiate his charge. This letter was sent to J. F. Nelson Sam Gates, H. C. Campbell and J. D. Lewis, all

of whom live on route number 3 from Deatsville
"Dear Sir:
"I am reliably informed that you have threatened to lynch or to assault George Lewis, colored. My information is that this man is a law abiding colored citizen and this is to notify you that if you make any assault on this man or molest him in any way, all the power of the State of Alabama will be used to secure your arrest and conviction and severe punishment.
"I desire you to understand that under the oath of my office, I will see to it that the laws of Alabama are used for the protection of every citizen. If you have any grievances against this colored man the courts are open to you for redress.
"I shall notify the Solicitor and the Judge of the rumors I hear and put the law officers of your county on guard so that you will be watched, and any infringement on the laws of the State will be punished.
"Respectfully,
Emmet O'Neal, Governor."

There is a new development on in this country and it is 'character building.' The solution of our national problems depends on development of character of our young men. Our young men are born to the solving of these questions, as they are of Anglo-Saxon blood—the blood that has conquered governmental problems through the ages.
"We of the south—of the purest Anglo-Saxon blood—are peculiarly fitted for this task and I believe the coming generation of these men of the south will solve our vexing problems and once more bring this country into its own."
Congressman Hobson's speech was followed closely by an enthusiastic audience lessened in numbers from Friday night by rain.
Judge Nash Broyles, of the Atlanta recorder's court, addressed the audience for a scant five minutes and in a pithy statement declared that in the United States, and particularly the south, crime was on the increase and its enforcement correspondingly hard for four principal reasons, namely: The criminal negro population; the influx of undesirable Europeans to the United States; the American habit of pistol "toting" and the fact that a de-

mocracy, like ours, allowed more liberties to its citizens than other forms of government.
Judge Broyles' Solution.
Judge Broyles' solution of the problems was told in a short statement in which he stressed the moral education of the negro, the outlawing of the pistol and more strict immigration laws.
A. Orme, in his remarks on "The Crime of the Ages," said that he was pleased to note the effort made by William J. Bryan some time ago to keep the democracy of Nebraska from becoming rum-soaked.
"He showed great courage," said Mr. Orme, "when the question came up. In fact, he has shown courage in defending other great moral and political issues. Certain political papers of this country have called Mr. Bryan the weakest member of Mr. Wilson's cabinet. I submit a public official holding the position of secretary of state who has the courage to ignore past customs and discard alcoholic drinks from state dinners, does not lack courage."
Mr. Orme also said the high cost of living was bound up in the liquor question. "I do not believe the high cost of living will be done away with until the waste growing out of the legalized liquor traffic is discontinued," he declared.
G. M. A. Boys Are Present.
Interested auditors at the meeting last night were a battalion of Georgia

NEGRO WOMEN AWAIT HEARING FOR MURDER
Ethel And Laura Williams Are Transferred To County Jail Under Charges.
Advertiser 12-27-13
Ethel and Laura Williams, negroes, charged with killing Cora Crawford, another negro have been transferred from the city jail to the county jail where a warrant from the Inferior Court charges them with murder. The Crawford woman is alleged to have been killed in a fight with the two other women at noon Thursday.
According to the officers, the women engaged in a fight on Christmas Day and when the Crawford woman seemed to have overpowered Laura Williams the latter's sister interfered and with a long knife stabbed her sister's assailant to death.

UNPARALLELED BRUTALITY ALLEGED BY OFFICIALS

Mont. Adv. 10-16-13
Testimony of Negro Leads to
Arrest of Two For
Peonage

What the Federal officers declare to be the most inhuman case of peonage and brutality in the history of Alabama has been brought to light through testimony given by Alex Suffie, a negro, and caused the arrest of Ardis M. Carter and Dee Hodge, two farmers residing near Opp in the southeastern part of the State. The men were arrested on a warrant sworn out by United States District Attorney Warren Reese and were taken to Dothan yesterday where they will be given a preliminary hearing before United States Commissioner C. S. Tutwiler.

Baring his back before the Federal officers in Montgomery the negro exhibited a hundred scars which, he testified, he received at the hands of the men while being held against his will.

According to District Attorney Reese, the negro had been beaten unmercifully and a mass of scars covering his body bore out his statement. The black was weak from the ill treatment when he reached Montgomery after escaping from the farm where, according to his statement, he was held.

The negro stated that while working for one of the men who were arrested, he had had offers of better paying positions but that the farmer refused to release him. He declared the farmer had framed up a debt of \$20 against him and that when his prospective employer agreed to pay it for him, the negro was taken from his home and beaten. He declared that he was called from his home again later in the same day and before recovering from the other beating, was lashed unmercifully.

Mr. Reese stated yesterday afternoon that he had made a report of the case to Washington and that in the report he stated that the case was worse than any that had ever come under his observation or of which he had ever read.

SAY BOGUS BAILIFFS
IMPOSE ON IGNORANT

Gus Alston and R. M. Bell Are
Indicted on Charges of

Misdemeanor.
Constitution 3-23-13

More developments came yesterday in the various charges that persons claiming to be bailiffs of justice courts have been imposing upon the ignorant class of Atlanta people, when the announcement was made that the grand jury had indicted Gus Alston and R. M. Bell for misdemeanor, the specific charges being that they had impersonated officers.

The men are held under bonds of \$300 each. Neither one is said to have been a qualified bailiff at the time the crime was committed about two weeks ago, but since then Alston is said to have qualified as a bailiff for a justice of the peace.

Coker Makes Investigation.

The charges were brought through investigations of Detective E. A. Coker, who stated that a negro man came to him and complained that the room of two negro women who rented from him had been raided by men claiming to be bailiffs, and nearly everything that they had had been taken away, including even the matting upon the floor.

According to the statement of the negro, who gave his name as J. A. Savage, the men came to his home at 24 Hogue street and showed a fi. fa. issued against him by Judge J. Colton Lynes, who had previously resigned as a justice of the peace. The ignorant darkey did not know that Judge Lynes was no longer an active justice, he claims, but he did know that he had a properly executed homestead on his

household effects, and this he showed to the pseudo bailiffs.

He says that the men represented to him that they were from Judge F. M. Jackson's court, and that the fi. fa. had been turned over to that court for execution. When they saw the homestead, declared the negro, they grew wroth, and swore that they would have something for their trouble, and proceeded to carry off the property of Rosa Williams and her roommate, two negro women who had recently come from the country.

All Effects Are Taken.

Trunks were dragged out of the house, the matting which the women had put on the floor and even their personal wearing effects were taken, Savage told Detective Coker, and the women were left a little slip of paper as a memorandum of the supposed satisfaction of justice. The officers did not even write on it the name of the court they claimed to represent, says Savage.

Judge Lynes, who denounced the practices of justice courts, and particularly of the bailiffs connected with them, in his recent resignation, was informed of the action of the men who used the fi. fa. from his court. He

was exceedingly angry, and declared that these fi. fas., with many others, should have been turned over to his successor and kept by him for execution against the parties named in them.

OUR PARK RECORD.

We need to get a good square look at the figures contained in the report of the Attorney General, dealing with crime in Alabama. We need to study his statement that there were 701 homicides in Alabama in the past two years—almost one a day in a modern State, equipped with all of civilization's machinery for enforcing the law.

We are criticised often—sometimes justly and sometimes unjustly—but no man has said too hard a word about the depressing record of Alabama for crimes of violence. How could we be more condemned than the condemnation contained in those cold and unimpassive figures, which show that 701 persons were the victims of homicides in Alabama in two years?

This fact is really worse than it seems, for there is an increase in the number of homicides over the previous two years, 1909 and 1910, when the black list only totaled 623. The spread of the disgrace of crimes of violence is more rapid than the increase in the population of the State.

Again of these 701 homicides only twenty-nine criminals were sentenced to death—another was sentenced to hang because he committed arson. The report continued to be depressing; there is a marked increase in the number of prisoners in Alabama charged with carrying concealed pistols. The two offenses against law and society follow upon the heels of each other; the murderer is almost invariably the carrier of a concealed pistol. What a work we have to make established law effective, and to make human life safe?

The report is significant in its figures relating to the widespread violation of the prohibition laws of the State. It shows that in the two years covered by the report, that in 1911 and 1912 there were 5,976 persons indicted for violating the prohibition laws. This is a menacing increase over the number of such violators for the previous two years, for in those years the number of prohibition law violators indicted numbered 3,005. The number of prisoners arraigned for trial accused of breaking the laws against the sale of liquors, vastly outnumbered any other class of prisoners

who come before the court. The report shows clearly that the most widespread crime in the State is that involved in the illegal sale of liquor.

In many communities the machinery of the courts have become clogged with the great number of prohibition cases. The widespread breaking of this law has increased Alabama lawlessness, and it has made the punishment of criminals accused of other offenses more uncertain. For the community which produces juries which will disregard evidence and free violators of the prohibition laws, will also produce juries which will acquit prisoners accused of other crimes.

There is today no more vital question before the people of our State than this—how to make the law respected, and how to enforce it with

THE CONVICTS ON THE ROAD

Mont. Adv. 6-17-13
The convention or conference, held Saturday in Birmingham, with the declared purpose of taking the convicts out from the present system of employment and of establishing a new plan for working them, was characterized by two significant features, first, the declaration by resolution that the convicts should be employed on the public roads, and second, by the preponderating representation in the meeting of officers, members and attorneys of the labor unions of the Birmingham district, who would have the convicts removed and the work they are doing turned over, at a higher price, to members of the Miners' Union.

The members of the United Mine Workers, their lawyers, their office holders, and the politicians who are under obligation to them, should make their fight in the open. They should come out in the open and declare that the State should take the convicts away from the mineral district and pension them so that members of their union could get better prices for their labor. A frank statement from these gentlemen would carry the fact that they want the tax payer to support the convicts and to take them away from the mines, so that miners could get the work they are now doing, at largely increased wages. We naturally hate to see selfishness running around disguised as altruism, and declaring, when it is feathering its own nest, that it is only at work for the good of the people.

By far the most important development of the Birmingham meeting was its declaration by resolution that it favored the use and employment of the convicts on the public roads of the State. When the meeting was called its promoters announced that its first and prime purpose was to abolish the present convict system. The future could take care of itself. But now we have something definite. We have some sort of an idea now as to what the theoretical operators of the State government would like to have done with the convicts—they would put them on the roads.

In this connection Captain Frank S. White, one of the speakers at the Birmingham meeting, declared in a burst of eloquence that the only interest, the only concern that the State of Alabama had in its unfortunate convicts was to make money out of them. Captain White wanted to be eloquent, he surely did not make such an assertion in earnest. The State of Alabama would be infinitely better off if there was not a convict in it; every Governor, every administration since the war would have welcomed the beautiful situation in which there was no crime and no convicts. Unfortunately, only one person is responsible for the convict, that is the convict himself. If there was no crime there would be no convicts.

Nor is the State only and exclusively interested in the convict according to his earning capacity. The Alabama convict in the mines today has far better food, treatment and conveniences than he has outside his prison or his mine stockade. Moreover, he puts in fewer hours than the average merchant in Alabama, in doing his daily task. Captain White lives in Birmingham and not far from the mines in which convicts are worked. He knows whether this statement is or is not true. Again convicts are given much kinder and much more beneficial treatment in the mines than they are given in the city or county prisons of the State.

Captain White and his associates at the Birmingham meeting, know that the wardens, the inspectors, the foremen and the bosses over the convicts are appointed by the State. If the convicts do not get humane treatment under them, where will they get humane treatment? If the convicts

are taken out of the mines and put on the roads, the State will appoint the wardens, the bosses and the foremen. How can they expect more humane or more sympathetic bosses than those which are now over the convicts?

We have no toleration for that maudlin sympathy which melts into tears over the fact that the State does not lose money on its operation of the convict department. We have no patience with the maudlin sentiment that is grieved because the State manages its convicts so that they support themselves, and because the State does not require the convict to be supported by some honest and hard working citizen. The State is "not coining money out of its unfortunates"; it is making its criminals support themselves and partly support the courts, which are maintained to protect property and human life in Alabama. Why should an honest, law abiding business man have to contribute a thousand or two thousand dollars a year, as many of them do, for the support of the State government, and a criminal be excused from laboring for the State or contributing a single dollar for its support?

Moreover, we think it as foolish as it is unjust, for the tax payer to be mulcted by thousands of dollars to put the convicts on the roads, and to relieve them of the necessity for contributing as the honest man does, to the support of the government?

COMMON SENSE IN SOLVING THE QUESTION. 4-21-13
The correspondence between a gentleman of Birmingham who favors working the convicts on the public roads, and a gentleman from Georgia, who also favors the working of convicts on the public roads, has been made public in Birmingham to prove that the system is successful in Georgia. It would be equally convincing for correspondence to be made public between a gentleman of Alabama, who is opposed to the system, and a gentleman of Georgia who is also opposed to it, to prove it a rank failure.

It is ridiculous to claim that the Georgia system, in an experimental stage, is an unqualified success, as it would be to claim now that the Georgia system is an unqualified failure. Unbiased observers, looking at the Georgia and Alabama experiments in the light of common sense, will write

the final verdict on this system of handling the convicts.

Now and then, in the press of Georgia, there appears an unbiased, impartial news statement which rings with a significance. For instance The Atlanta Constitution says:

One hundred and twenty long-term convicts have escaped from the camps in the State within a period of only eight months just passed, and this does not include the misdemeanor convicts that have gotten away, numbering some 240.

Here in Alabama prisoners have been kept none too well in stone, steel and concrete jails. How are escapes of this kind to be prevented on the road, with the convicts in the open and herded at night in temporary camps along the roadside? It is common sense to expect that there will be numerous escapes with convicts working along the roadways, and none too well guarded, for the convict authorities must be as economical as possible in the hiring of guards and wardens, in view of the heavy expense of the roads system. The numerous escapes but confirm one of the predictions made by those against the Georgia system. Continuing The Constitution says:

The figures have startled the members of the State prison board, and they are making a vigorous protest and are trying to devise some plan whereby such a wholesale delivery of felons can be stopped. * * * Why, if this thing keeps up, one prison commissioner is quoted as saying, a murderer who gets a life sentence won't mind going to the penitentiary at all, for all he will have to do will be to walk into a camp, turn around and walk right out again.

If these statements are true, and they have not been denied, it would be well for Alabama to look long before it leaps. With numerous camps of convicts working along the roads in the rural districts, and with scores of them escaping into those quiet communities, we are quite sure that the people of the country who make up 80 per cent of the population of Alabama will not long approve the experiment.

Again, it is the desperate criminal, the one with a long term sentence ahead of him, who escapes most often. The short term man would prefer generally to serve out his sentence than to take the small chance of making a break for liberty, only to continue a hunted man, if he succeeds in getting

away. The Georgia figures show that the murderer with the life sentence or twenty-year sentence, escapes in greater proportion than do other classes of convicts.

Destruction is far easier than construction. The convict system of Alabama can be torn down in six days—long enough for a bill to be passed through the Legislature. But it will not be so easy to build up another system, and one which may have more faults than the present system. There is no reason why the existing system should not be changed, provided a better one is found, but before we destroy what has been built up in the light of experience in Alabama, let us be sure that the new way will be the better way. And, we should have as the architects of a new or changed system, level headed, patriotic Alabamians, not muckers and writers for yellow journals, who are without responsibility, and who have no purpose except to profit personally by the strife and excitement they stir up.

ORDERS CANCELLATION OF HUXFORD-ORVIN CONTRACT

Mmt Adm
Report of Special Commission Leads to Drastic Action

by Governor
10-16-13

Because of the excessive cruelties and inhuman treatment imposed upon convicts at the Huxford-Orvin Naval Stores Company camp near Atmore, Governor O'Neal has ordered the Probate Judges of Baldwin and Mobile counties to cancel and annul all convict lease contracts existing between those counties and the company.

The Governor telegraphed these orders to Probate Judge J. H. H. Smith of Baldwin County and Probate Judge Price Williams of Mobile County. This action of the Governor was taken upon the recommendation of the State Convict Inspectors and Dr. W. H. Oates, State Prison Inspector.

At the request of Governor O'Neal, a special commission composed of the State Convict Board, Dr. W. H. Oates and Howard Seay, Assistant Attorney General, investigated the conditions at the Huxford-Orvin camp. This commission prepared a report which covers forty type-written pages. Details of the alleged cruelties are recited and testimony of the convicts at the Atmore camp is presented. These convicts told of the whippings that have been administered to them and of the

threats held over them in case they told of the true condition.

Refuse to Tell Greer.

In the report, it is said that several of the convicts were instructed by the lessees to refuse to give any information to Len F. Greer, Associate Convict Inspector, who made an investigation of the conditions two weeks ago. Because of the refusal of the convicts to tell Mr Greer of the real conditions he returned a report in which he declared that the charges were unfounded.

For several months Governor O'Neal has received communications from citizens of Baldwin, Mobile and Escambia counties telling of the manner in which the convicts had been treated at the camp. He also received a letter from D. M. Edington, City Recorder of Mobile, in which a strong protest was made on the treatment of convicts at the Atmore camp.

Acting upon these letters the Governor sent the special commission to investigate and as a result of this commission's report, he ordered all contracts cancelled.

While Governor O'Neal has no authority to cancel the city contracts of Mobile and Brewton he has advised the mayors of those cities to cancel their contracts. Following is a copy of the telegram sent to the Probate Judges:

Copy of Telegram.

"Under the authority vested in me as Governor by Section 6 of the act approved November 30, 1907, the Board of Convict Inspectors having notified me as Governor that the convicts sentenced to hard labor from Mobile and Baldwin counties and now confined in the Huxford-Orvin Naval Stores camp in Escambia County should be removed from that place and the contracts between the counties and the company should be annulled and cancelled, hereby direct you as Probate Judge of your county to remove said prisoners and to cancel and annul said contracts at once.

"Emmet O'Neal,
"Governor."

CONVICT BUREAU CLOSES BEST YEAR IN HISTORY

Notable Step Is Abolition of Lease System

2,400 PRISONERS HELD

Feature of Additions Is Installation of Bertillon Plan of Measurements

Mmt Adm 7-5-13
In reviewing the accomplishments of the State Convict Department dur-

ing the year just ended it is seen, that progress has been made in this branch of the State government, which is under the direction of James G. Oakley, President of the State Convict Board.

Perhaps the most rogressive step forward was taken by the department when the convict lease system was abolished. All of the convicts of the State, except in two small camps, are now being worked for the State under the direct supervision of State agents. The contracts at the two small camps have not yet expired, but when they are terminated they will not be renewed.

The price now received by the State for its convicts is the largest that has ever been paid for this class of labor in Alabama. In many classes of work the price obtained by the State is equal to that paid for free labor of a similar nature.

Receipts Have Increased

Since the beginning of the O'Neal administration the receipts of the convict department have been steadily increasing until they are now the largest ever received by the State from its convicts.

Many improvements have been installed at the different camps for the betterment of living conditions among the convicts and the health of the prisoners has been noticeably above the average. The department employs a physician and surgeon at each one of its camps and maintains a hospital which is in charge of a competent steward.

The different camps are visited regularly by a dentist who devotes his entire time to the care and treatment of the teeth of the convicts.

There are 2,400 convicts of all classes now under the control of the State. Out of this number there is a wonderful variety of labor classes, and, as a result, there must be different kinds of tasks provided to occupy the time of the prisoners. In order to obtain the highest amount of benefit from the services of the convicts, it has been found necessary to provide the different kinds of tasks for the prisoners.

Mortality Rate Low.

The ablest convicts are worked in coal mines, saw mills, foundries, and turpentine camps. Those who are unfit for this class of work are employed on the State farms at Speigner's, Wetumpka and Prison No. 4. The women and younger prisoners are worked in the cotton mill and sewing department.

The mortality rate among the convicts has rapidly decreased from year to year and the sanitary conditions much improved.

Among the other accomplishments of the department are the erection of a \$20,000 Tubercular Hospital at Wetumpka, completion of a hydro-electric plant at Speigners, which will furnish light and power to drive cotton mills which saves \$600 per month in fuel, the concentration of all prisoners at Wetumpka from the jails for physical examination, before being classed and sent out on contracts.

The officers of the State Convict Department are James G. Oakley, President Board of Inspectors; L. F. Greer and Dr. J. T. Fowler, Associate inspectors; Theo Lacy, Chief Clerk, Dan G. Trawick, Assistant Clerk.

HUGGED, THEN BEATEN TO DEATH

Federal Authorities Told of
Brutal Crime Committed
in Alabama

BORE A GOOD RECORD

Charles Carson, Whose Body was
Buried in Cabbage Crate, was
Well-Liked in Community

WIFE WAS ASSAULTED

Mrs. Carson Escapes to Tell Officials
How Three White Men Called at Her
Home and Dragged Husband from Bed.

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 14.—Federal District Attorney Warren S. Reese has made public the story of a brutal and horrible crime which was told him by Mrs. Alice Carson, of Dallas County, whose husband, Charles Carson, was hog-tied and beaten to death on the night of December 20, and his mutilated body buried in a cabbage crate. Mrs. Carson has appealed to the Federal authorities for protection, fearing for her life if she should ever enter Dallas County again. District Attorney Reese is unable to interfere, as the crime took place outside of his district.

The story related by Mrs. Carson in the District Attorney's office is a tale of fiendishness probably unrivaled by any that has ever taken place in Alabama in the past. She stated that her husband was a renter on the plantation of Bruce Hanes, a prominent farmer in Dallas County. Carson was formerly employed at the Louisville and Nashville shops in Montgomery, where he bore a good record.

Her head bound in cloths beneath which was the edge of an ugly scar, which she said was inflicted by a blow

from a pistol butt in the hands of one of the white men when she plead for her husband's life, Mrs. Carson sat a tearful and pathetic figure relating the story of the crime to District Attorney Reese. She said that between eleven and twelve o'clock on the night of December 20, five white men came to her home. After shooting through the top of the door they demanded that Charlie Carson get up and let them in. She said that her husband recognized one of the voices, and thinking that he would give him protection told her to let them in. They dragged the Negro man from his bed and carried him into the yard where they tied his hands and feet and then placing a stick back of his knees bound his two hands to the ends of it, bending his body into a stooping position.

Mrs. Carson said that they began beating him with a heavy buggy trace interspersing their blows with kicks in his side which crashed in his ribs, causing them to pierce through his body and become visible through the streaks of blood that flowed from the openings. She stood by and plead for mercy when she said one of the men struck her a hard blow in the forehead with his pistol and told her to hush. He then took the trace and beat her on the back, the scars of which she exhibited to the district attorney.

The woman immediately ran from the scene of the tragedy, realizing that her husband was being killed and fearing for her own life. Later she was informed by relatives that after Carson had been killed the three men refused to allow them to take charge of his corpse and bury it in a decent manner, assuming the work themselves, using a cabbage crate for a coffin. She said that she was told by her relatives that a dirty blanket was thrown into the crate without ado, the top nailed down and the whole cast into a hastily made grave.

2 POLICEMEN, 1 NEGRO KILLED IN ST. CHARLES, MO.

ST. CHARLES, MO., Dec. 8.—Police-
man John Blair was shot and killed
and Policeman David Lamb was fatally
wounded by three negroes late this
afternoon. One of the negroes was
killed.

The negroes were shooting craps
when the policemen attempted to ar-
rest them. They resisted and in the
revolver fight Lamb killed the negro
who killed Blair and was then shot
by one of the other negroes. The two
other negroes ran to the railroad tracks
and escaped on a freight train.

A posse in automobiles pursued and
overtaken the negroes ten miles east
of here. In another pistol fight one of
the negroes was shot in the leg,
whereupon both surrendered.

When news was received that the
posse and their prisoners were re-
turning here a mob of several hundred
armed men set out to meet them. A
lynching is feared.

Intense excitement prevails tonight
among both the whites and negroes.

SON OF POLICE CHIEF IN JAIL FOR MURDER

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE. 9-18-13
MONTGOMERY, Ala., Sept. 16.—Will

Taylor, son of Chief of Police Taylor,
who was convicted in the City Court
on the charge of murdering Albert Tur-
ner, a Negro, last year and sentenced
to five years in the State Penitentiary,
left the Montgomery County Jail Sun-
day morning in company with his father,
W. H. Taylor, and other members of
his family, for Wetumpka, to begin his
five-year term. Mr. Taylor accom-
panied his son to Wetumpka, making
the short trip in an automobile.

Will Taylor and Stevens were ar-
rested almost a year ago on charges of
killing one Negro and shooting another,
while in a drunken condition near Wash-
ington Park. Both young men are sons
of well-known Alabama families. Ste-
vens' trial comes up during the next
term of court.

Taylor at one time was a policeman,
and later promoted to be city detective.
Stevens lives with his father on the
Washington Ferry Road, several miles
out of Montgomery.

NEGRO KILLS WHITE MAN. Wounds Another at Mound Bayou, Miss. Retaliation Feared, but Law and Order Prevailed.

A Negro killed a white man at Moun-
d Bayou, Miss., last Wednesday night and
severely wounded another. A murder in
this quiet Indian town community is un-
usual. The fact that the whites in nearby
towns failed to retaliate or revenge the
killing of one of their race was more un-
usual for Mississippi.

A Negro minstrel troupe was giving a
performance at Mound Bayou—the Silas
Green Minstrels. A dispute arose be-
tween a white man and his son-in-law
on the one part and the Negro ticket sell-
er, which resulted in the whites knocking
the Negro down, he being unarmed. The
young white man drew a pistol and began
firing, while the Negro was down. With
the agility of a cat the Negro arose and
grappled with the white pistol user, and
wrenched the gun from his grip, then
turned the weapon upon the whites, kill-
ing the elder and seriously wounding the
younger man.

Mayor Creswell and Charles Banks im-
mediately phoned the sheriff of the coun-
ty, at Cleveland, ten miles away, advis-
ing him of the murder. In forty minutes
the sheriff and his deputies were on the
scene, coming in an auto.

Wednesday night was one of feverish
anxiety among many of the Negroes of
this town, who feared a rough element of
the whites from nearby towns would at-
tempt to retaliate. They requested pro-
tection from the sheriff. When that offi-
cer arrived they offered him any assist-
ance possible. Fortunately for both of
the races, the excitement quickly sub-
sided, and law and order reigned.

The white victim of the tragedy was
buried last Friday. Mayor Creswell, of
Mound Bayou, was requested by the fam-
ily of the dead man to superintend the
making of the grave. Attending the
funeral was a delegation of Negro citi-
zens from Mound Bayou, headed by the
venerable Isaiah Montgomery.

And now comes the unusual happening
for the South—A really unheard of thing
in Mississippi. At the grave of the vic-
tim, just before the "Ashes to ashes and
dust to dust" was solemnly said, the
white minister called upon Mr. Montgom-
ery, the man who founded the town in
which this white man was killed, to make
some remarks, which he did, speaking ap-
propriately.

That in Mississippi a Negro could kill

one white man and wound another with-
out being lynched, and that Negroes could
attend the funeral of the victim without
being disturbed, and that a Negro was
called upon to speak at the grave shows
how conditions are improving in the
South, and especially in Mississippi.

The white men, it was established, were
the aggressors, but this has heretofore
never been accepted as a palliating cir-
cumstance. The Negro who killed in this
instance was protecting himself, but this
has never before excused him from the
wrath of the rough white element.

The Negro who did the shooting made
good his escape. Peace and tranquility
reign over Mound Bayou and vicinity, and
the best white people and the best Ne-
groes are working harmoniously together
for mutual good and progress.

NEGRO DESPERADO KILLED.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 18.—Edward
Wimbush, a negro desperado who last
night fired at Sheriff McCain on board
a crowded street car, was shot dead
today by a posse. Wimbush had
just fought off his pursuers all night.

NEGRO SHOT TO DEATH BY POSSE IN ILLINOIS

Mont. Data 9-13-13
Another Believed to Have Been Fatal-
ly Wounded.

CAIRO, ILL., Sept. 12.—One negro
was killed and another is believed to
have been fatally wounded by a posse
of citizens near Tamms, Ill., last
night, following the negro's attempt
yesterday to force a merchant of
Tamms to accept a bill which had been
raised from one to five dollars.

When the clerk refused to accept
the bill in payment for a small pur-
chase the negroes drew revolvers and
began firing as they backed out of
the store. The clerk was not injured.
Citizens formed a posse and with deputy
sheriffs started in pursuit.

A running fire was exchanged, but
the negroes escaped. At midnight
blood hounds from Anna, Ill., tracked
them to a field south of Tamms. Here
the lifeless body of one of the negroes
was found. The other negro escaped
but is thought to have been wounded.

THE REAL REASON THE JONES BOYS KILLED GRAYSON

The Chicago Defender

Jones Boys Clean Up City with Shot and Shell Like Charles of New Orleans—Colored Woman the Cause—Was Engaged to Marry Young Jones in November—Many Young Men in the South Have Been Betrayed by Such Unfaithful Women.

Oct 4 - 13
UNITED STATES TO BLAME FOR NEGRO'S CONDITION.

The Bedroom Should Be Jim Crowed as Much as the Street Cars and Parks of the South—Young Educated Negroes Prefer Death Rather Than Take Insult from Any Man, as Do Many Boot-Spittle Negroes in the South—Southern White Man Must Marry Colored Woman of the South if He Wishes to Live in Peace—Educated Negro Mothers of the South Teaching Their Sons It Is Manly to Die to Protect Their Sisters and Their Betrothed.

[Special to The Chicago Defender.]

Natchez, Miss., Sept. 29.—Editor The Defender: Your message calling upon me to go to the scene of the crime and get the facts about the Jones brothers reached me O. K. I at once started for the scene of the lynching, bearing my own expenses, because I am a Negro and know how unjust the press news by wire is to true facts and false to my race. I suppose you won't mind helping to pay me back for time and expense. You know this is the cotton season and we are dragging cotton bags at 75 cents a hundred, and I pick three or four hundred of the white fleece every day except Sunday.

Well, I lost all of the first three days, but I won't count in last Sunday, as I didn't pick cotton Sunday. Here are the facts:

There has been some quiet agitation among the Negroes concerning the open and flagrant conduct of white men towards colored women. This volcanic eruption is taken place ever and anon, coming many decades. It obtruded itself even in the dark days of slavery, and many a white overseer got his brains beaten out because of that white man daredevil spirit to seek colored women.

Saturday night I learned that while great crowds of cotton pickers were in town, shopkeepers overheard the Negroes, some of whom were a little boisterous, telling what might happen to some white men if on the week following they acted as openly and flagrantly toward one or two of the pretty mulatto women hired by

them but who were relatives of the complainants.

It is galling for any kind of a man to have enacted before his eyes culpable liberties with his female relatives without arousing the least savagery in him.

Well, this talk gathered strength, and noise drifted into boisterousness. Walter Jones, the oldest of the two brothers, remembered that the girl he wanted to marry was in the clutches of a white man, and at the very hour sleeping in his arms. He determined to kill every white man in Harristown, and to kill her whom he loved but could not marry. So he got his brother Will at about 1 o'clock Sunday morning, determined fully to kill every white man guilty of having a Negro mistress. These boys were not drunk; they are not the kind who drink; their father is a white business man here, and their mother a good and noble woman, and they were well up on all the principles of decency and good behavior. Drunken men never had such unerring aim as these two boys, whose dead-shot aim has created consternation among white people throughout this section of the state. These boys qualified to do some reformation work on the basis of the unwritten law, and to take the consequences for their act, asking no quarter and giving none.

As I write this letter my heart is beating loud, and in feeling I can hear the bloodhounds and hear the shouts of agitated men along the country road, and if it was known that I was giving honor to the valiant deeds of these two young colored men, why my neck would wear the death collar before morning.

In all it is credited to the Jones brothers of killing and wounding sixty-five people. Not more than six Negroes were shot by them, but they were the class of people that sneak around and find out things for white folks, so while they were at it they called on and killed and wounded a few of this kind. Later Sunday morning, after Walter Jones had wreaked vengeance upon the white man who stole his wife-to-be, by killing them both outright, he and his brother Will fled to a cotton mill where they barricaded themselves. When they were attacked at noon Sunday the sheriff had reached the scene of excitement, and, finding a mob clamoring for the blood of the brothers, led them on.

The sheriff was the first fall in the first general fusillade, for indeed, they say that it seemed that the very clouds opened and bullets rained down upon their luckless heads. I have been anxious to get the New Orleans and Natchez dailies to see whether or not they will charge all this bloody shooting up to just a common drunken brawl. They always say that every sensible thing the Negro does, that he was beastly drunk. Now, use your common sense. Could two drunken Negroes hold off a thousand blood-thirsty white men for ten hours? Could two drunken Negroes kill everybody they shot at? A man to shoot straight must be able to see straight and act straight.

The colored people about here were in as great fear as the white people. They took no part in what the brothers did. In such things our people down here never are the aggressors. Sometimes when they are oppressed to the point of human endurance they do like anybody else—protect themselves as best they can, but in the case of Walter and Will Jones, 20 years and 18 years, they had the white people on the run, and nobody for several hours was brave enough to raise a window or peer out of an open door. They say that the whole town trembled for their lives. Everybody was afraid to venture until they got word the soldiers were to reach Harristown within an hour, a few brave ones heavily armed started out to find the two boys.

Thead Grayson, a white man, one of the class of white men who want the earth and every colored woman it had, incurred the hatred of Walter Jones, who was himself a fine looking mulatto, because it finally leaked out that Thead Grayson exercised a freedom over Miss Aiken, Walter's sweetheart. I am sorry to chronicle that the Negroes were too cowardly to follow the lead of these two martyrs. They gave up their lives pro-

testing against a million inhuman and beastly attacks upon the virtue of their sisters. They could withstand the charge of Negro inferiority no longer, and determined to be made a dog of no longer. Our big Negroes are struck dumb and nobody here can exercise the right of free speech in Harristown but the white men and the colored women.

All the trouble is caused by the white brute overlording the Negro by a free hand among the Negro women, who sometimes live in luxury, although it is in disgrace.

P. S.—This may be too long for you to print, but I have covered everything as well as I can. Every Negro knows what white people think down in these parts, and therefore they cannot express even the slightest opinion one way or another. I believe that white people should be less bold in violating colored men's homes by ruthless assaults upon hundreds of the best looking women of the race, but it seems that they have a mania which they lack the moral conscience to withstand.

Some kind of change must come. The Negro will not always tolerate the wreckless mischief which is forced upon him; sometime he will speak out in tones above a whisper against unjust oppression, and in behalf of his outraged humanity.

Yours, ANONYMOUS.